

OLD FASHIONED | IN PLAIN SIGHT | PASS THE LIGHT | OUR TOP MUSIC & MOVIES OF 2014

# CHRISTIAN REVIEW

SHINING THE LIGHT ON CHRISTIAN ENTERTAINMENT

EXCLUSIVE  
INTERVIEWS WITH

**JEREMY  
CAMP**

**Tourniquet's  
Ted Kirkpatrick**

**STEVE TAYLOR**

*Jericho*

**MOVIE, MUSIC &  
BOOK REVIEWS**

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MISTY EDWARDS

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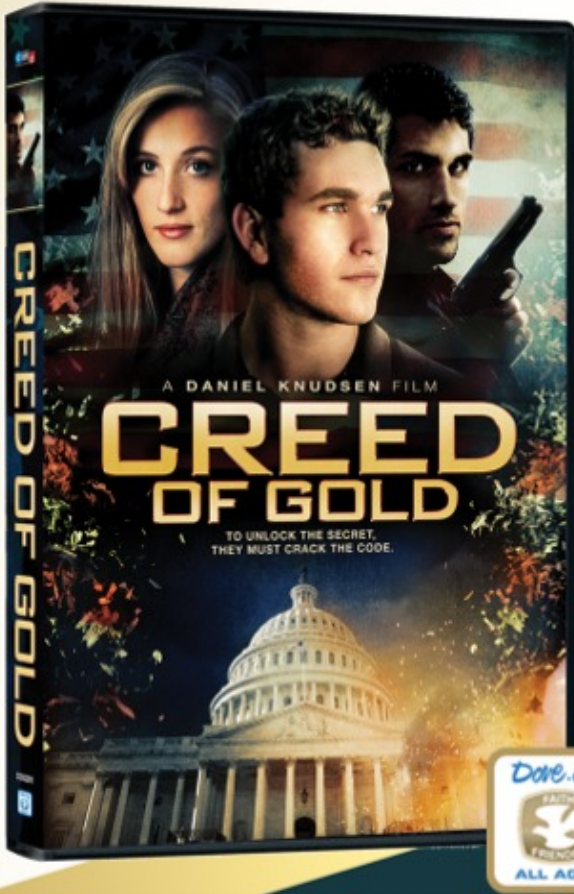


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In 1917, a secret group financed the Bolshevik Revolution; while this group did not break any laws, were their actions ethically right? Creed of Gold follows three college students as they investigate this shadowy group of individuals. For centuries, this group has manipulated finances around the world and is now using the Federal Reserve to undermine the U.S. economic situation. When, unbeknownst to the others, one man gets greedy and creates a computer program in the Federal Reserve accounting program to siphon money into his own pocket, the race is on. An immigrant from Russia, Adam relates the ideas of the Bolshevik revolution to modern day America. Cody, Adam's brilliant but humorous side-kick, helps bring the message of the film home by sometimes just stating the obvious. And Kirsten allows us to empathize with the trio as we follow her personal journey from high-society to heartfelt faith.

# CHRISTIAN REVIEW

SHINING THE LIGHT ON CHRISTIAN ENTERTAINMENT

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## FROM THE EDITOR

**W**elcome to the January / February issue of Christian Review Magazine. We hope you had an excellent 2014 and are looking forward to an even better year in 2015!

We have been working hard behind the scenes to bring you some great content in this issue. We have interviews with Jeremy Camp, Steve Taylor, Ted Kirkpatrick (from Tourniquet), David Trotter (one of the filmmakers behind the documentary film *In Plain Sight*) and Jericho.

As for reviews, we have been watching, listening and reading like never before to give you our take on recently released and upcoming movies, music, and books.

There are also some great giveaways on our competition page including a copy of Hunter G.K. Thompson's new album, a Duck Dynasty Bible, The Passion Translation: Psalms and John, The Identical DVD, and more...

As 2015 begins we pray that like us, you are believing that this year will be your year. Take hold of Jesus' hand and allow Him to guide and provide for you as only He can!

*Christian St John*  
Senior Editor

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*Misty Edwards*

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# IN THIS ISSUE

## MOVIES & TV

### 8. OUR TOP MOVIES OF 2015

### 12. BLOCKBUSTERS

### 14. OLD FASHIONED

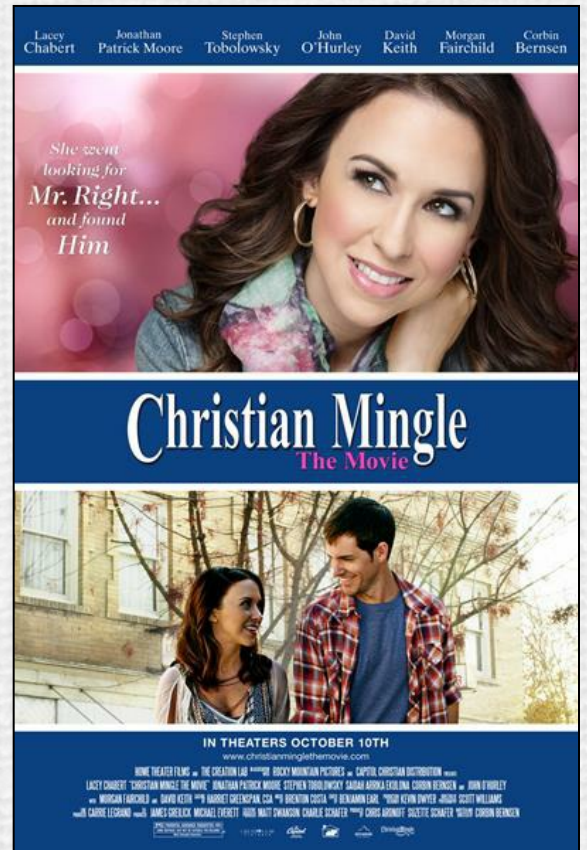
The indie movie that's going head to head with *50 Shades of Gray*.

### 17. REVIEWS

featuring *Redemption of the Commons*, *A Long Way Off*, *The God Question*, *In Plain Sight*, *Christian Mingle*, *No New Kinda Story*, *Little Hope Was Arson*, *Hoovey*, *23 Blast*, *Pass the Light*

### 34. INTERVIEW WITH DAVID TROTTER

An exclusive interview with David Trotter, one of the filmmakers behind the sex trafficking documentary, *In Plain Sight*.



## MUSIC

### 36. OUR TOP MUSIC PICKS OF 2014

### 40. INTERVIEW WITH TOURNIQUET'S TED KIRKPATRICK

### 42. REVIEWS

featuring Steve Taylor & The Perfect Foil, The Gray Havens, Hunter G.K. Thompson, P.O.D., Four Star Revival, Misty Edwards, Jeremy Camp, Tourniquet, Hardie Avenue, Aaron Gillespie, Bethel Music

### 46. INTERVIEW WITH JERICHO

### 52. INTERVIEW WITH STEVE TAYLOR

### 66. INTERVIEW WITH JEREMY CAMP



# BOOKS

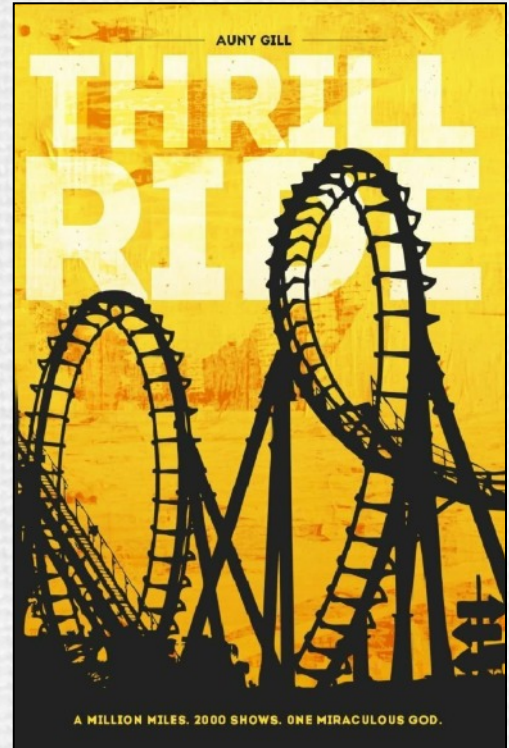
## 71. REVIEWS

featuring The Duck Commander Faith and Family Bible, The Box, Tongue Pierced, Seventh Dimension: The King, Devotions for a Healthier You, Thrill Ride

## 74. FEATURED AUTHOR: LORILYN ROBERTS

### IN EVERY ISSUE:

Copyright/Info	3
From the Editor	5
Contents	6
Final Word	81
Competition	82



BETHEL MUSIC

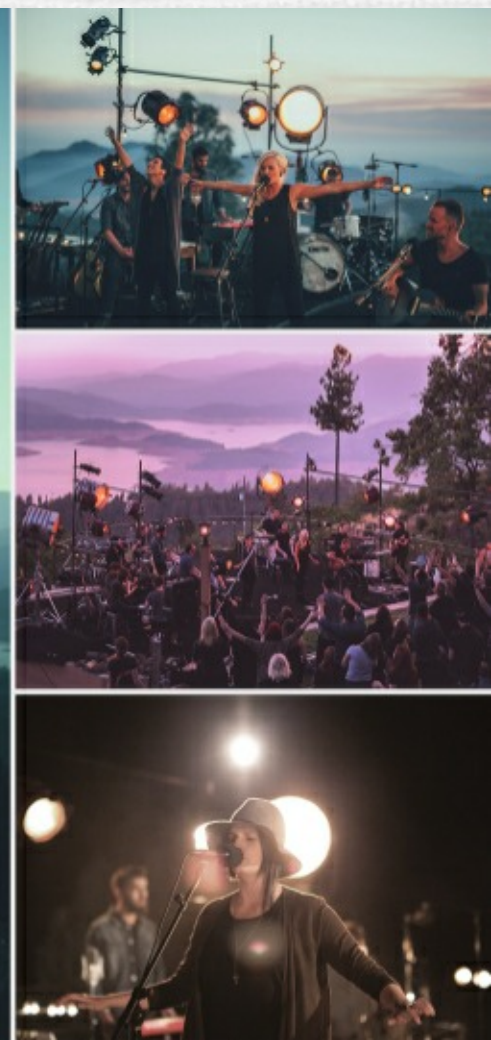
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# OUR TOP MOVIES OF 2014

2014 was a great year for Christian and faith-based movies. Several high profile movies had theatrical releases during 2014 - *Heaven Is For Real*, *God's Not Dead*, *When The Game Stands Tall*, *Son of God*, *Left Behind*, *Moms' Night Out*, *The Identical*, *Kirk Cameron's Saving Christmas*, *Persecuted*, *The Remaining*, *A Matter of Faith*, *The Song*, and *23 Blast*.

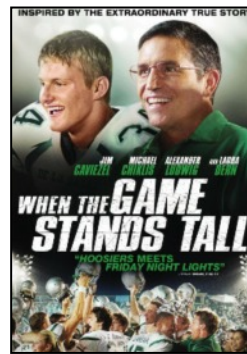
Hollywood also had a go at producing a few faith-based movies, most notably *Noah* and *Exodus: Gods and Kings*. And regardless of whether these movies were theologically correct or not they proved one thing, the faith-based movie scene is alive and booming... so much so that Hollywood is taking notice and getting in on the act!

There were also many Christian and faith-based movies that were released straight to DVD and Blu-ray. So many in fact, that it was hard trying to keep up with what was being released.

So what movies stood out to the staff of Christian Review? What Christian and faith-based movies stood out from the rest and made our best of 2014 list?

## Christian's Top 5 Choices:

This was a hard list to put together as there have been many great movies released this year.



**WHEN THE GAME STANDS TALL** - Hand's down, the best movie of the year was *When The Game Stands Tall*, an emotional roller-coaster of a movie. In one scene you'll find yourself cheering for the team, the next tears

will be welling up in your eyes. The movie also has some highly inspiration moments throughout, which should leave you feeling great when the credits begin to roll. ([Read review](#))



**THE WAR WITHIN** - A visually stirring movie with exciting storytelling, *The War Within* encompasses some profound moments of crystal clear truth-telling. Everything that is right about the Christian film industry – great

production quality, inspired acting, and excellent



writing - are to be found in *The War Within*. Not only one of the best of the year, this is one of the best Christian films ever made! ([Read review](#))



### **HEAVEN IS FOR REAL -**

Forget what the naysayers are saying about this must-see movie starring Greg Kinnear, Thomas Hayden Church, and Kelly Reilly, is a beautiful tale that testifies that indeed Heaven is for real

and that we are never alone. What a wonderful hope filled truth! It's also worth mentioning that this movie was the biggest grossing Christian movie of the year. ([Read review](#))



**IN PLAIN SIGHT** - This documentary lays bare the fact that sex trafficking is not just a third world problem, but that it exists right here in North America. And the cold hard truth is that many of

those used for sex are underage girls who have been forced by parents, relatives, and pimps to live in a nightmare. Filled with candid interviews, *In Plain Sight* is at once a heartbreaking yet hopeful film that shows some of the wonderful people involved in the fight for freedom. ([Read review](#))



**MY NAME IS PAUL** - This is an end-time movie based on the Biblical story of the Apostle Paul. An excellent piece of indie Christian filmmaking. It's obvious that it was made on a low budget, and yet the finished film is

extremely impressive indeed - a testament to the hard work that must have gone into producing this film. To be honest, and I don't say this lightly, but *My Name is Paul* is the best end-times film I have ever watched. It's also worth noting that a sequel is planned. ([Read review](#))

### WORTHY MENTIONS

- Ragamuffin
- Moms' Night Out
- Ashes of Eden
- Life Changes Everything
- The Song
- Evolution's Achilles' Heels
- Persecuted
- 23 Blast
- The Christmas Secret
- Saints and Soldiers: The Void

## Leah's Top 5 Choices:



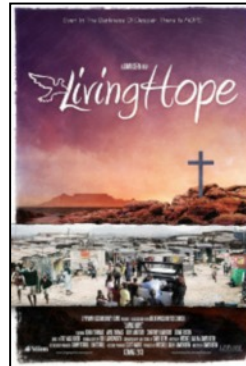
**WHEN THE GAME STANDS TALL** - Based on a true story, *When The Game Stands Tall* is a sport drama that revolves around the journey of football coach Bob Ladouceur and the De La Salle High School Spartans. All of the actors

(which include Jim Caviezel, Michael Chiklis, Laura Dern, and Alexander Ludwig) bring their A-game, and the production is fantastic. This is a brilliantly made inspirational movie about how the strong faith of one man inspired many. ([Read review](#))



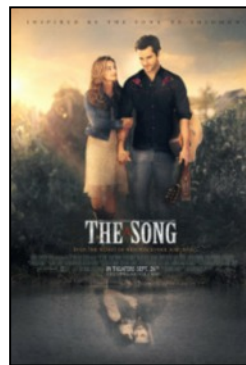
**BELIEVE ME** - This movie focuses on a group of four college buddies who start a fake charity in order to pay off outstanding debts and earn some extra cash as graduation nears. While it is highly entertaining, brilliantly

acted, and extremely well made, there is a lot that one can learn from watching *Believe Me*. The movie is very thought provoking, passionately produced, and it not-so-subtly demonstrates that mere words can have a huge impact on someone's faith. ([Read review](#))



**LIVING HOPE** - A fantastic documentary about the non-profit organization, Living Hope, and it's lifesaving work in South Africa. It showcases the story of Pastor John Thomas, and those who came alongside him to fight

poverty and disease in South Africa. Living Hope is an excellent piece of film, as it is both captivating and inspirational - it certainly tugs at the heartstrings. It is a testament to the fact that many lives can be changed, saved even, through the faith of a few. ([Read review](#))



**THE SONG** - Inspired by the Biblical book *The Song of Solomon*, *The Song* is about one man's search for meaning and purpose in a life he deems as meaningless. While it is an excellent movie on all fronts, don't expect a

romantic comedy from *The Song*. It is a deep drama, that deals with topics including faith, love, marriage, temptation, adultery, and the search for true meaning and hope in life. ([Read review](#))



### **THE CHRISTMAS CANDLE -**

Set in 1890 England, *The Christmas Candle* revolves around a small village and its new minister, both of which are in need of a miracle. Based on best-selling author Max Lucado's novel of the same

name, it truly captures the Spirit of Christmas. This film grabs your attention and heart right from the get-go, and through all of the drama, humor, and both sad and inspirational moments, it instills a sense of hope. ([Read review](#))

#### WORTHY MENTIONS

- Mom's Night Out
- Ragamuffin
- Nowhere Safe
- Saints & Soldiers: The Void
- Noah
- Heaven is for Real
- 23 Blast
- Like A Country Song
- Coffee Shop
- Evolution's Achilles' Heels

## **2014... IT'S A WRAP!**

As you can see, 2014 was a great year for Christian and faith-based movies. But there were many movies we didn't get round to watching... yet. As soon as they hit the home video market we will rush out to watch *The Remaining*, *The Good Lie*, *Alone Yet Not Alone*, *The Identical*, *A Matter of Faith*, *Unbroken*, and anything else we may have missed this year... look for these and more movie reviews on our website and in future issues of Christian Review Mag!

## **2015 - ANOTHER GREAT YEAR?**

So far, 2015 looks like it will be another great year for movies. We already know of several movies that we can't wait to watch - *Beyond the Mask*, *Undivided*, *Old Fashioned*, *Adrenaline*, *The Good Book*, *Return to The Hiding Place*, *Mary Mother of Christ*, *Echo Rhyme*, *To the Wall*, *Let Hope Rise*, and the upcoming Easter television event, *A.D.*, from the producers of *The Bible Miniseries*.

We hope you have a great year and...

## **...SEE YOU AT THE MOVIES!**



These are the movies that made it to theatrical release in 2014 and took the box office by storm.



## HEAVEN IS FOR REAL

BUDGET = \$12,000,000  
BOX OFFICE = \$91,443,253

## GOD'S NOT DEAD

[CLICK HERE FOR TRAILER](#)  
BUDGET = \$2,000,000  
BOX OFFICE = \$60,722,732

# BLOCKBUSTER



## SON OF GOD

BUDGET = \$22,000,000\*  
BOX OFFICE = \$59,700,064

## WHEN THE GAME STANDS TALL

[CLICK HERE FOR TRAILER](#)  
BUDGET = \$15  
BOX OFFICE = \$30,127,963

## MOMS' NIGHT OUT

[CLICK HERE FOR TRAILER](#)  
BUDGET = \$5,000,000  
BOX OFFICE = 10,429,707

These figures don't include home video rental/sales.

All figures from BoxOfficeMojo.com

\*Budget for The Bible Miniseries from which the *Son of God* movie was adapted

# BLOCKBUSTER

LOVE IS PATIENT ... LOVE IS KIND ... LOVE IS ...

# old fashioned

THE SMALL-BUDGET INDIE THAT'S PICKING A FIGHT WITH "FIFTY SHADES"

from the studio that brought you "God's Not Dead"

LOVE IS  
PATIENT

LOVE IS  
KIND

LOVE IS...



elizabeth ann roberts rik swartzwelder

## old fashioned

CHIVALRY MAKES A COMEBACK

SKOCHER FILMS PRESENTS A MOTION PICTURE PRODUCTION BY MATTIUM PICTURE PRODUCTIONS "OLD FASHIONED" ELIZABETH ANN ROBERTS RIK SWARTZWELDER LEE ANN WOODS MIAMI HADJIS ANGELLE PEREY JOSEPH BERNARDINI MARIYANN HALLER LINDSAY BEATH ANNE MARIE MESTORIAN TYLER HOLLANDER AND KATHRYN SILVER \*\*\* KAZIYAR BEYLE \*\*\* MELISSA LLOYD GEORGE \*\*\* JONATHAN OLIVE PHILIP SHEPHERD FORNIA HAZZ JESSICA DANIEL GEORGE \*\*\* BRANSON TAYLOR \*\*\* PHILIP SHERWOOD JEFFREY TRAVIS WILLIAM K. BAKER STEPHEN R. CAMPANELLA BENJAMIN HERSHKLEICH HALLEY SINGAROVLEY \*\*\* BRIAN ZENOS ZACH C. GRAY RACHEL LYNN JEFFREY STOTT \*\*\* GORDON TUCKING SUSAN TUCKING \*\*\* NATHAN WAZARRO AND DALE DEBORNE MIAMI HADJIS \*\*\* PRODUCED BY SWARTZWELDER

this valentine's day

skocher FILMS

Get ready to rrrr-rumble! In this corner, the heavyweight Cineplex champ *FIFTY SHADES OF GREY* – the best selling soft porn about a naïve heroine and a tortured leading man who likes his women that way too. In this corner, *OLD FASHIONED*, in which two souls who are 50 shades of jaded try to build a love to last.

This Valentine's 2015, romance-minded moviegoers can choose between the girl-meets-bondage story of *FIFTY SHADES OF GREY*, in which a couple explores their dark desires, or its polar opposite, *OLD FASHIONED*, about two broken people coming out of the dark into real love

*OLD FASHIONED* is the story of a former frat boy and a free-spirited woman who together attempt the impossible: an "old-fashioned" courtship in contemporary America.

"The timing of it all definitely provides a stark contrast—and that's the point," *OLD FASHIONED* writer/director/star Rik Swartzwelder said. "The conversation should be pushed. Not all fantasy is harmless and not all paths lead to true and lasting love. We have two movies here, both about people with troubled pasts . . . but both taking very different approaches to getting romance right."



Amber (Elizabeth Ann Roberts) and Clay (Rik Swartzwelder) use time together to share perspectives in the movie *OLD FASHIONED*, from Skoche Films, the love story that opens opposite "Fifty Shades of Grey" on Valentine's weekend 2015.

The romantic-drama, *OLD FASHIONED* centers on Clay Walsh (Swartzwelder), a former frat boy who gives up his carousing ways and now runs an antique shop in a small Midwestern college town. There, he has become notorious for his lofty and outdated theories on love and romance.

When Amber Hewson (Elizabeth Ann Roberts), a free-spirited young woman with a restless soul, drifts into the area and rents the apartment above his shop, she finds herself surprisingly drawn to his noble ideas, which are new and intriguing to her. And Clay, though he tries to fight and deny it, simply cannot resist being attracted to her spontaneous and passionate embrace of life.

Ultimately, Clay must step out from behind his relational theories, and Amber must overcome her own fears and deep wounds, as the two of them,

together, attempt the impossible: an "old-fashioned" courtship in contemporary America.

"The wheels of *OLD FASHIONED* were in motion long before the *FIFTY SHADES* book got to Hollywood," Swartzwelder said. "We didn't create our film in response to any other specific book or film, at all . . . but the decision to hold-off on our release so it could open alongside *FIFTY SHADES*? Yes, that was indeed deliberate."

"We thought it was a unique opportunity to set up a film as antidote," he continued. "Think of a young woman you care about . . . which love story would you wish for her?"

News of *OLD FASHIONED* facing off with *FIFTY SHADES* drew international attention in leading media outlets...

- MTV understood Swartzwelder's choice: "There's a faith-based film about 'old fashioned courtship' hitting theaters on the exact same day as the sinful, S&M filled adaptation of *FIFTY SHADES OF GREY*. And if you thought that was some sort of divine coincidence, you'd be wrong. This is a challenge."

- Britain's *Daily Mail* headlined its story, "Trading bondage for Bibles: Christian movie takes on *FIFTY SHADES OF GREY* at the box office with its 'godly romance' alternative"

- *E! Online* clearly captured audience options: "If you want to see a love story this coming Valentine's Day, you can either go to the very clean and tame end of the spectrum, or you can go to the other end of the spectrum that leads to the red room of pain. Your choice."

"*FIFTY SHADES* will attract that book's readers and a lot of curiosity," *OLD FASHIONED* Producer Nathan Nazario said. "The *OLD FASHIONED* audience will include people drawn to real life, real love. Of course, we're after conversations prompted by two contrasting takes on sex, love and romance . . . on what men and women really want, and what it takes to get it."

*OLD FASHIONED* opens in theaters on Valentine's Day 2015.





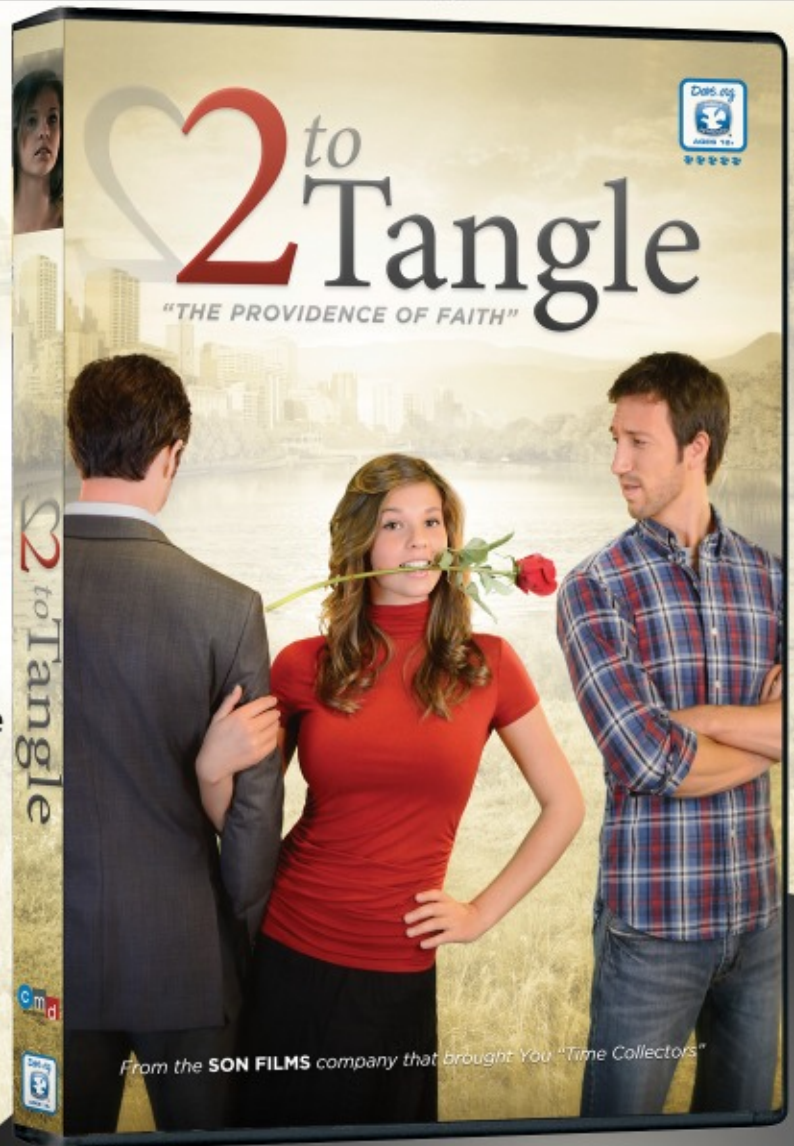
...will have you anticipating the ending to learn how it is all wrapped up."

E Carpenter (Dove.org)

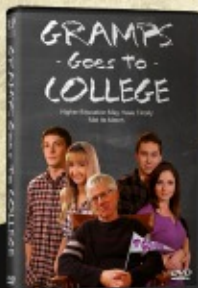
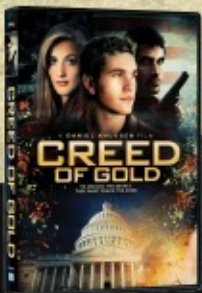


Jessica's true love, Tom, starts appearing to her after his death. Terrified and confused, Jess seeks out an explanation for these haunting attacks and discovers that the key to her deliverance is her faith. In a surprising twist Jess will find out that the man she loved was not who she thought he was. The answers to her questions might surprise you.

**STARRING:** Clay Doss, Kassy Collins, Jenna Epkey, English  
**DIRECTOR:** Johnson, Caleb  
**PRODUCER(S):** Johnson, Jeff / Johnson, Lorraine / Houser, William / Houser, Rochelle  
**RUN TIME:** 108 minutes  
**CLOSED CAPTIONED**  
**WIDESCREEN**  
**UPC:** 865953000053



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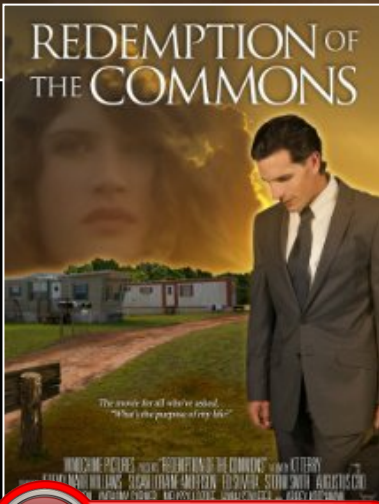
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# MOVIE REVIEW



The movie for all who've asked, "What's the purpose of my life?"



**WATCH TRAILER**

**Title:**  
**REDEMPTION OF THE COMMONS**

**Rating:**



**Starring:**  
**Jeremy Marr Williams, Susan Lorraine Anderson, Ed Silvera, Storm Smith**

**Written by:**  
**K.T. Terry**

**Directed by:**  
**K.T. Terry**

**Genre:**  
**Drama**

**Running Time:**  
**90 minutes**

**MPAA Rating:**  
**NR**

**Production Company:**  
**Windchime Pictures**

**Released by:**  
**Exploration Films**

**Reviewed by:**  
**Christian St John**

**Release Date:**  
**Available Now : DVD & VOD**

**V**ictor is a man trying to make his way in the world. Living from the back of his van he is working hard to establish a corporate branding business in L.A. Unfortunately Victor is broke, owing \$93,000 in debt.

Victor's world comes crashing down on him when his latest pitch goes terribly wrong and his van is repossessed. With nowhere left to turn he makes a call to Pop, an elderly friend from his past, who tells him to come home. However, home is a rundown trailer park filled with bad memories and broken relationships.

*Redemption of the Commons* is low budget movie from South Carolina. A deep drama peppered with humor, this is a highly watchable movie that shows that with God anything is possible. For the tenants of the trailer park, known as The Commons, life is often hard and hopeless with no happy ending in sight. But when they turn to God and one another, their lives are forever changed.

For a low (micro) budget movie the production itself is pretty good. The picture and sound are clear, the screenplay is good, and the acting is above par, with everyone turning in believable performances. I liked

that the rundown trailer park looked like a rundown trailer park, not a particularly pleasant place to live. This helped me to see that for many people places like this are home. And it helped me to see the hardship and struggle some people live with on a daily basis.

But it's not all doom and gloom. The story is ultimately one of hope. Like phoenixes rising from the ashes, the residents of The Commons pull together and use what talents and gifts they have to make a better life for themselves. Like a family, they begin to rely on one another and discover their purpose together.

The main message of the movie is, God's got a plan and a purpose for all of us. As Pop says to Victor, "God's got you a purpose, and you'll find it. And when you do you'll know, 'cause you'll dance." And I like that!

*Redemption of the Commons* is not a high octane, multi layered storylined epic. Instead this is slower paced story driven movie, a gentle and highly relatable tale of redemption, where people come together to step into the lives God would have them live.

# MOVIE REVIEW



**WATCH TRAILER**

**Title:**  
**A LONG WAY OFF**

**Rating:**



**Starring:**  
**Jason Burkey, Robert Davi, John Diehl**

**Written by:**  
**Jon Macy, Gerald McGlothlin**

**Directed by:**  
**Michael Davis, John Errington**

**Genre:**  
**Drama**

**Running Time:**  
**105 minutes**

**MPAA Rating:**  
**PG**

**Production Company:**  
**Uptone Pictures, Prodigalfilm, CMD Distribution**

**Released by:**  
**Word Films**

**Reviewed by:**  
**Christian St John**

**Release Date:**  
**Available Now : DVD & VOD**



**J**ake Abraham (Jason Burkey - *Rumors of Wars*) is fed up of working for his father on the family farm. He dreams of bigger and better things. So when an opportunity arises, Jake asks for an early inheritance from his father, who surprisingly agrees to give it to him.

Once he has the money in hand, Jake leaves the farm and his family behind and heads for the big city to start a new life for himself. Once there, he begins to invest in companies and living large. He buys an expensive car and an even more expensive apartment, and begins to hang around with people who take to Jake... and his money.

In the beginning things actually look good for Jake. His investments make him a lot of money and so he begins to live even larger and party hard with his new found friends. But when something happens that makes his investments worthless, Jake is forced to rethink his life.

*A Long Way Off* is based on *The Parable of the Prodigal Son*, one of the most famous stories Jesus told. The riches to rags story is one that many people can relate to, the evidence of which can be seen in the amount of 'prodigal' movies that have been made over the years - off the top of my head I can think of *Prodigal* (2011), *The*

*Prodigal* (1983), *Warrior* (2011), *Turning Back* (2010), and *Wayward: The Prodigal Son* (2014).

The production quality of *A Long Way Off* is superb - the cinematography, sound, music score, editing, and directing are all well done. The acting is also well done thanks to some good performances by Jason Burkey, John Diehl (*Stargate*), Robert Davi (*The Goonies*), and Johanna Jowett (*7th Street Theater*) - in fact, the entire cast was good.

The one thing that let the production down was the screenplay. It's not that it's badly written, I just felt there just wasn't enough tension throughout which made the movie drag on a bit... at least 15 minutes could have been shaved off the running time.

As far as negative content, there are a few scenes set in bars and nightclubs, so there is some drinking shown (people are seen drunk in a couple of scenes). There is also some violence - a man gets beaten up and a man pushes another man. But there really isn't a lot of negative content in this movie.

Faith wise, the story sticks pretty close to the parable Jesus tells in Luke 15:11-32, and the themes of family, change, love, forgiveness and mercy are prevalent throughout.

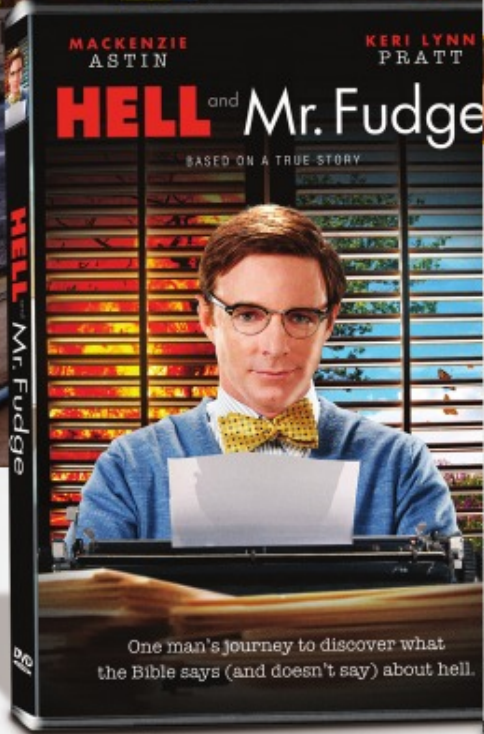
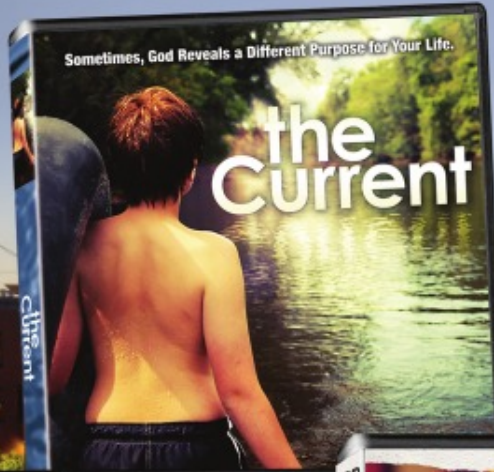
# MOVIES



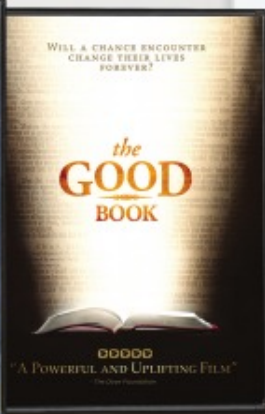
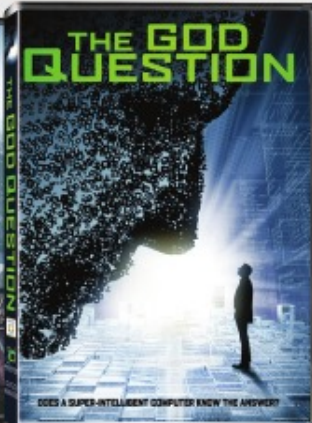
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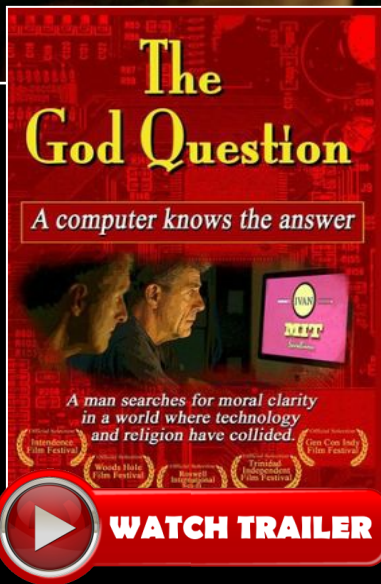
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**Title:**  
**THE GOD QUESTION**

**Rating:**



**Starring:**  
**Keith Langsdale, Jim Loble, Cate Damon**

**Written by:**  
**Stan Freeman**

**Directed by:**  
**Douglas Gordon**

**Genre:**  
**Drama, Sci-Fi**

**Running Time:**  
**88 minutes**

**MPAA Rating:**  
**Not Rated**

**Production Company:**  
**Mill River Films**

**Released by:**  
**Bridgestone Multimedia Group**

**Reviewed by:**  
**Leah St John**

**Release Date:**  
**Feb 2, 2015 : DVD**



## MOVIE REVIEW

**A** movie with an intriguing premise, *The God Question* revolves around former MIT professor Stephen Kendrick, a scientist who has access to a recently banned highly intelligent super-computer he helped write the source code for. With the encouragement of Yale philosopher, Jane Hurst, and the help of his friend, Alan Moss, he sets out to see if he can get it to answer that age old question, is there evidence for the existence of God?

While the movie follows a pretty basic storyline, it is well written and makes you want to keep watching to the very end.

*The God Question* raised some good points about man vs. machine, such as the value of unique perspectives and opinions that come from independent human thinking and consciousness versus the “thoughts” and “conclusions” of an inanimate soulless machine.

That being said, *The God Question* is not going to be for everyone. Going in, you need to be aware that this is a thoughtful and conversation driven “thinking movie” - it’s not a movie that is purely for

entertainment, you can’t turn your brain off for this one!

**“How come we’re asking a machine, it’s never felt a thing, never felt love, pain, hunger. Never felt faith or gut instinct... why are we asking it a question about God?” - Alan Moss**

Taking into consideration that this is a self-professed micro-budget movie, the filmmakers did a pretty good job at bringing their vision to the screen. For the most part, the production quality is very good - I personally think that it’s a lot better than many other micro-budget movies I’ve seen in the past. The acting was also good throughout.

*The God Question* is a well made movie with depth. I recommend watching it with others, as it is a thought provoking movie that proposes some good questions that are sure to make you think.



**Title:**  
**IN PLAIN SIGHT**

**Rating:**



**Narrated by:**  
**Natalie Grant**

**Written by:**  
**Troy Lamberth, David Trotter**

**Directed by:**  
**Noah Lamberth, David Trotter**

**Genre:**  
**Documentary**

**Running Time:**  
**69 minutes**

**MPAA Rating:**  
**Not Rated**

**Production Company:**  
**Awaken Media**

**Released by:**  
**Word Films**

**Reviewed by:**  
**Christian St John**

**Release Date:**  
**Available Now : DVD & VOD**

# MOVIE REVIEW



**T**here's an old tale that goes something like this. A man is out walking one day and sees a beach covered with thousands of starfish. Further along he sees a young girl picking up one starfish after another and tossing each one back into the ocean. "Why are you doing that?," he asks of the girl.

"Because the sun is up and the tide is going out," she says, "and if I don't throw them back into the water they will die." "But don't you realize there are miles of beach and it's covered with thousands of starfish! You can't possibly save them all. In fact, even if you work all day, your efforts won't make any difference at all." The young girl turned from him, picked up another starfish and threw it into the sea. Smiling she said, "It made a difference to that one."

Sex trafficking. We've all probably heard these two words. But how many of us know that sex trafficking is not just something that happens in far off places such as Thailand, Africa, and India? The cold hard fact is, it's happening right here on our own back doorstep.

*In Plain Sight* is the new documentary film from the team that brought us *Mother India: Through the Eyes of the Orphan*, an excellent documentary that looks at the plight of orphans living on the streets of India. This time the filmmakers take a look at something much closer to home, sex trafficking right here in North America.

To say this film is heartbreaking would be an understatement. As I watched I was

reminded again and again this isn't the stuff of fiction. For far too many young girls and women sex trafficking is a reality. And life for people caught in the world of forced prostitution, porn, and worse, is a living nightmare - the movie states that over 100,000 children are being used for sex with an average age of 12-14.

But as *In Plain Sight* shows us, there is hope, thank God! After presenting the viewer with some facts and figures, the film then follows six women who have said enough is enough. These courageous women are doing something pro-active to help young women who have been saved from terrible situations - it truly is inspiring to see what these women are doing.

*In Plain Sight* shows us that every victim of sex trafficking has a name and a story, that they are more than a statistic, that they are someone's daughter. Furthermore, it shows us that there are those who have forsaken their own wants and desires to offer girls and women love and a safe home, maybe for the first time in their lives

This is a remarkable film that is at once heartbreaking yet incredibly hopeful. It takes the average viewer beyond their comfort zone to show them a world far removed from theirs. *In Plain Sight* isn't the easiest film to watch, in fact it's gut wrenching at times. But I am glad that the filmmakers behind this project chose to share what some are doing to make things better for the beautiful 'starfish' that come their way.

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## Christian Mingle The Movie



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**WATCH TRAILER**

**Title:**  
**CHRISTIAN MINGLE**

**Rating:**



**Starring:**  
**Lacey Chabert, Jonathan Patrick Moore, Stephen Tobolowsky, John O'Hurley, David Keith, Morgan Fairchild, Corbin Bernsen**

**Written by:**  
**Corbin Bernsen**

**Directed by:**  
**Corbin Bernsen**

**Genre:**  
**Drama, Romance, Comedy**

**Running Time:**  
**103 minutes**

**MPAA Rating:**  
**PG**

**Production Company:**  
**Home Theater Films**

**Released by:**  
**Capitol Christian Dist.**

**Reviewed by:**  
**Leah St John**

**Release Date:**  
**January 13, 2015 : DVD**

# MOVIE REVIEW



**W**ritten and directed by Corbin Bernsen (TV's *L.A. Law*, *Psych*) *Christian Mingle* is a dramedy that follows a 30 year old woman who is searching for her soul mate. With no luck finding that special someone, and being the last single woman in her group of friends, she decides to give online dating a try. After lying about being a Christian on her profile, she ends up meeting a great guy through ChristianMingle.com. But when she is eventually called out for faking her belief in Christ, she finds herself on an unexpectedly life changing journey.

*Christian Mingle* is a wholly entertaining film with a well thought out story, which includes laugh-out-loud funny, dramatic, and poignant moments. And though it might fall into the rom-com category, it has enough content to keep both male and female viewers equally entertained.

Topics covered during the course of the film include love, trust, faith, and the search for truth. The Gospel is presented well in this movie, and it is also shown that there is more than one way to worship and live out your faith. And unlike many other faith-based movies, *Christian Mingle*

unabashedly calls out a lot of so-called-believers, in that it takes more than just saying that you believe in God coupled with an occasional trip to Church to be a Christian.

Also worth noting is that *Christian Mingle* has a good number of recognizable actors attached, including Lacey Chabert (TV's *Party of Five* & *Baby Daddy*), Stephen Tobolowsky (*Groundhog Day*), John O'Hurley (TV's *Family Feud* & *Seinfeld*), Morgan Fairchild (TV's *Chuck*), and David Keith (*An Officer and a Gentleman*). The performances from all actors are great throughout the movie, with each one confidently playing their respective role.

My hats off to Corbin Bernsen for making a movie that not only has an engaging and well written script, but that is also well directed and produced. *Christian Mingle* is certainly his best feature film yet (some of his other films include *Rust* [2010], *25 Hill* [2011], and *Beyond the Heavens* [2013]).

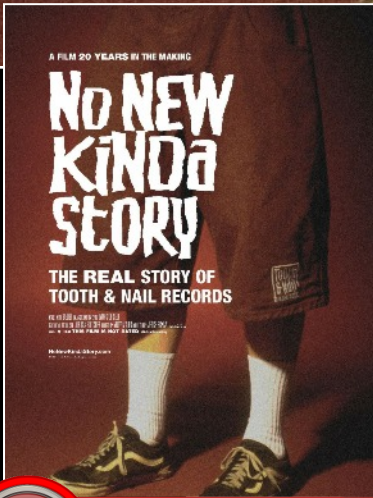
*Christian Mingle* is a well made and thoroughly enjoyable faith-based dramedy with some depth that exceeded my expectations.



# MOVIE REVIEW



**"I never dreamed that it would get to a point where I could put out this many records, and God could use me to make this much of an impact." - Brandon Ebel**



**Title:**  
**NO NEW KINDA STORY: THE REAL STORY OF TOOTH & NAIL RECORDS**

**Rating:**



**Starring:**  
**Brandon Ebel, Mike Herrera, Aaron Sprinkle**

**Directed by:**  
**Jesse Bryan**

**Genre:**  
**Documentary, Music**

**Running Time:**  
**71 minutes**

**MPAA Rating:**  
**Not Rated**

**Production Company:**  
**Belief, Work Of Self, Tooth & Nail Records**

**Released by:**  
**Tooth & Nail Records**

**Reviewed by:**  
**Leah St John**

**Release Date:**  
**Available Now on DVD & VOD**

**B**ased out of Seattle, Washington, Tooth & Nail Records is well known around the globe for housing widely regarded veteran bands such as Anberlin, MxPx, Living Sacrifice, and many, many more. This documentary, titled *No New Kinda Story*, is an in depth look at the rise, fall, and rebirth of Tooth & Nail Records.

Way back when, in the early 1990's, Brandon Ebel was a young man with a strong passion for music and a desire to begin a record label. When no bank would give Ebel a loan to begin the label, his grandfather agreed to give him one (as long as he paid it back with 10% interest!). And thus Tooth & Nail Records was born.

As a longtime listener of many Tooth & Nail bands and follower of the label, I found this documentary fascinating. It focuses mainly on the conception and early years of Tooth & Nail Records, as well as the early history of punk-rock band MxPx, and ska group The OC Supertones.

This film focuses mainly on Brandon Ebel, the labels founder, but there are also a good number of notable artists featured in *No New Kinda Story*. Some such artists include Bruce Fitzhugh (Living Sacrifice), Don and Ryan Clark (Demon Hunter), Mike Herrera (MxPx), Jason Carson (The OC Supertones), and Rob Walker (Wish For Eden). They each spoke about their experiences working in the music industry,

working with Tooth & Nail Records, and the influence Tooth & Nail Records has had on them.

During the course of the documentary, Brandon Ebel takes the viewer on a visual tour of some of the locations he talks about - places that played roles in the history of Tooth & Nail Records. In addition, there are archive videos of old shows, music videos, and interviews, as well as old photos that were featured heavily throughout the documentary, and older Tooth & Nail releases provided almost continual background music.

The production and editing were great throughout (the archive videos were somewhat blurry, but hey, they are pretty old). I got so into the documentary early on, that I didn't even notice the majority of the documentary was black and white until after I watched it.

*No New Kinda Story* is a great film to watch if you are a fan of old-school Tooth & Nail bands, or just want to learn more about the history of an iconic label that has played a pretty big part in making the 'Christian' music scene what it is today.

Today, Tooth & Nail Records and its subsidiaries are influential forces in both the Christian music scene, and a broader market. And it all happened because one man believed in his grandson.

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# MOVIE REVIEW



**WATCH TRAILER**

**Title:**  
**LITTLE HOPE WAS ARSON**

**Rating:**



**Directed by:**  
**Theo Love**

**Genre:**  
**Documentary**

**Running Time:**  
**71 minutes**

**MPAA Rating:**  
**Not Rated**

**Production Company:**  
**theCollaborate, Good Night  
Smoke**

**Released by:**  
**The Orchard**

**Reviewed by:**  
**Christian St John**

**Release Date:**  
**Out Now : Select Theaters**

**“If you fight with God,  
you’re gonna lose.”**

- Daniel McAllister



In the Heart of Texas sits Smith, Van Zandt, and Henderson counties with a combined population of 335, 570. Described as the 'buckle of the Bible Belt', there are 1,400 churches in this one area of Texas. *Little Hope Was Arson* is the story of ten of them.

In East Texas, during January and early February 2010, ten churches were burned to the ground within a forty mile radius. Authorities quickly realized that the church burnings were the work of arsonists, at least two, and a massive manhunt ensued. Churchgoers living in area were understandably scared, with many 'good-ol' boys' hanging out at their places of worship armed to the nines just in case the arsonists decided to turn up and try to burn their sanctuaries.

It didn't take long for the authorities to discover who was behind the arsons, and on February 21, 2010, Jason Robert Bourque, 19, and Daniel McAllister, 21, were arrested and charged. Faced with overwhelming evidence, both men pleaded guilty. Then in January 2011, Bourque and McAllister were sentenced.

But that was just the beginning of the story for these two young men.

*Little Hope Was Arson* is a powerful piece of documentary filmmaking. It really gets to the heart of the story and digs deep to

uncover the why and wherefores of the crimes. It details for the viewer both sides of the story - those affected by the arsons and the stories of the arsonists themselves.

The production itself is excellent - the picture and sound are clear, and the music really helps to add atmosphere to an already haunting film. As such this is a highly watchable film.

*As Little Hope Was Arson* is a documentary, there is actual footage of the church burnings and interviews with those present at the time, including some pretty angry churchgoers. There are also some recent interviews with the families of the arsonists and with the arsonists themselves that further expands and deepens the storytelling.

*Little Hope Was Arson* is an engaging and pulse-pounding documentary that moved and challenged me in ways most other documentaries fail to - I was again reminded that the church Jesus spoke of is not a building but people; that there is always a story - a series of events - behind every action, thought and crime, even hate crimes; and that everyone, no matter what they've done, are loved unconditionally by God and given chance upon chance in His grace and mercy... even those who burn down places of worship!

# MOVIE REVIEW



# MOVIE REVIEW



**Title:**  
**HOOVEY**

**Rating:**



**Starring:**  
**Patrick Warburton, Lauren Holly, Cody Linley, Alyson Stoner**

**Written by:**  
**Howard Klausner**

**Directed by:**  
**Sean McNamara**

**Genre:**  
**Sport, Drama**

**Running Time:**  
**91 minutes**

**MPAA Rating:**  
**PG**

**Production Company:**  
**Gundersen Entertainment, Brookwell-McNamara Entertainment, EchoLight Studios**

**Reviewed by:**  
**Christian St John**

**Release Date:**  
**Jan 31, 2015 : Theatrical**

**B**ased on true events, *Hoovey* is a movie about family and faith and tells the remarkable story of Eric "Hoovey" Elliot, a basketball loving high school student. At the beginning of the movie, Hoovey is suffering from blurred vision and severe headaches which are quickly written off as poor eyesight. Then one day he gets a blow to the head during basketball practice and it is soon discovered that he has a tumor the size of an orange at the base of his brain.

After an 8 hour operation the tumor is removed and the good news is Eric will live. But the operation leaves him having to learn how to walk, talk, and read again. And overnight, the Elliot family find themselves in crippling debt that threatens to rob them of the lives they have built up for themselves and known for so long.

*Hoovey* is an excellently produced movie; it looks and sounds great. The screenplay is engaging, something that is made even more so by the acting by all involved. Cody Linley (TV's *Hannah Montana*) plays the movie's namesake, and his parents are played by Patrick Warburton (TV's *Family Guy*) and Lauren Holly (TV's *Motive*). And they are brilliant in this movie... in fact

everyone involved brings their best to this one!

*Hoovey* is a faith loaded movie. On the one hand it shows the cold-hard reality that life can change in an instant - one minute the Elliot family are a normal American family living the dream, the next their lives are thrown into chaos and financial ruin. On the other hand, it shows how when push comes to shove the Elliot family took everything to God and trusted in Him, no matter how hard it seemed at the time.

Much like the stellar movie adaptation of *Heaven is for Real*, *Hoovey* is an inspiring and hope filled, family friendly movie. There is a fair amount of tear jerking and tense moments throughout, but the movie ultimately shows that through everything the Elliot family faced, God was the one constant in their lives.

As a movie, *Hoovey* has it all. It's funny, dramatic, moving, and poignant, everything you want when watching a feelgood movie. Everyone at Christian Review loved this movie, as such *Hoovey* comes highly recommended!



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**WATCH TRAILER**

**Title:**  
**23 BLAST**

**Rating:**



**Starring:**  
**Mark Hapka, Bram Hoover, Stephen Lang, Alexa PenaVega, Max Adler**

**Written by:**  
**Bram Hoover, Toni Hoover**

**Directed by:**  
**Dylan Baker**

**Genre:**  
**Sport, Drama**

**Running Time:**  
**98 minutes**

**MPAA Rating:**  
**PG-13**

**Production Company:**  
**Touchdown Productions LLC, Toy Gun Films**

**Released by:**  
**Ocean Avenue Ent.**

**Reviewed by:**  
**Leah St John**

**Release Date:**  
**Jan 20, 2015 : DVD & VOD**

# MOVIE REVIEW



**“For we live by faith, not by sight.”**  
- 2 Corinthians 5:7 (NIV)

**B**ased on a true story, *23 Blast* is a sport-drama about high school football player Travis Freeman, a smart outgoing young man who is considered the best player on the team. But after suddenly and permanently losing his sight, Travis withdraws from his team, his friends, and his life in general. But eventually, Travis realizes that he must learn to overcome his disability if he is to live again.

*23 Blast* is an inspirational movie about a young man overcoming almost insurmountable odds. Throughout value is placed on family, friendship, and faith. Equipped with an engaging story, *23 Blast* has emotional drama, humor, a little bit of romance, and of course, sports action in the form of football - there is literally something for everyone.

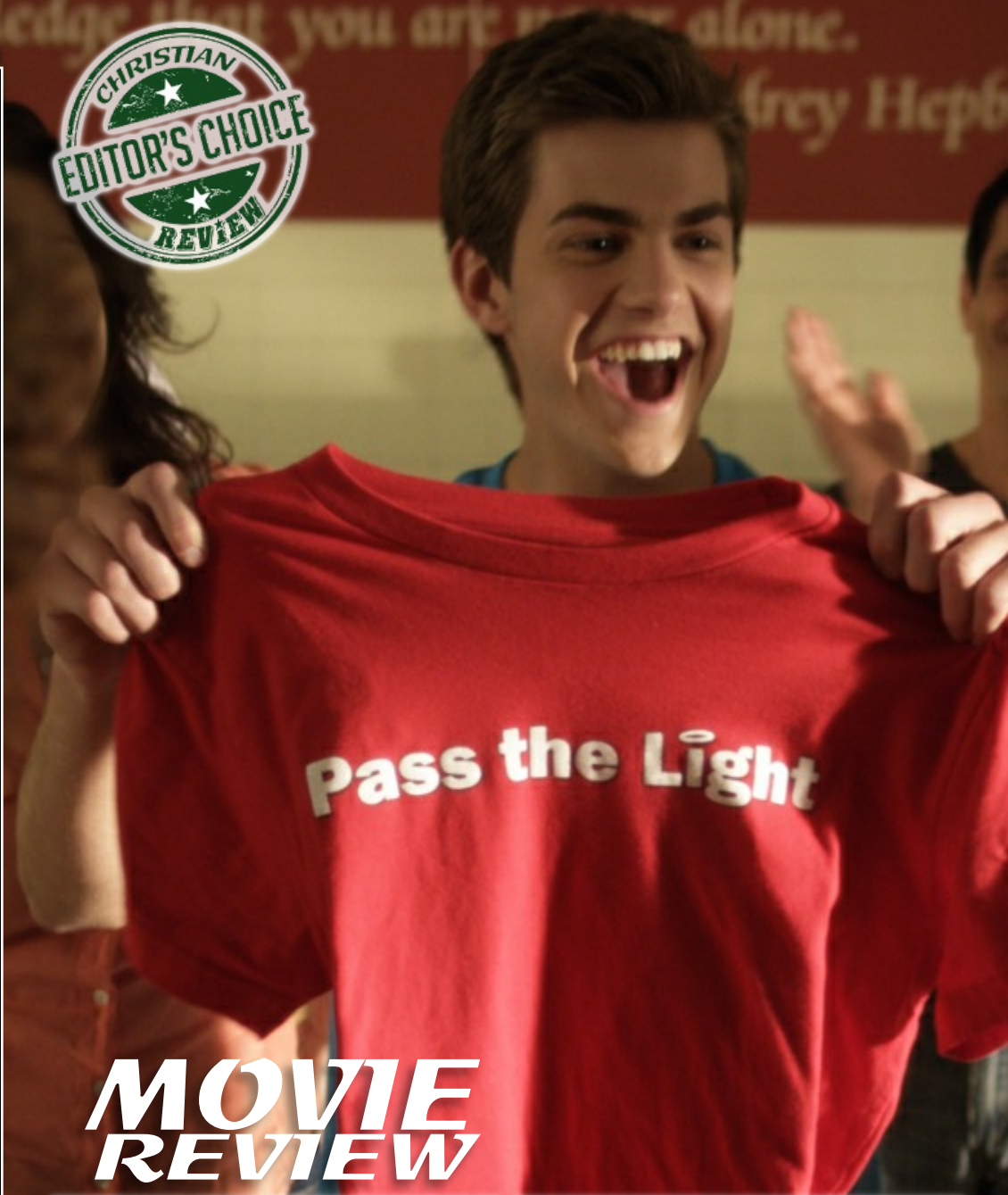
There are a lot of notable actors who appear in *23 Blast*. It's nice to see yet another Christian faith-based movie attracting the attention of a number of well known names in the film-industry. Acting veteran Stephen Lang (*Avatar*) fits the bill as the stern yet encouraging Coach Farris. Mark Hapka was very well cast in the role of

Travis Freeman, likewise with Bram Hoover who played Freeman's troubled best friend Jerry Baker. They both played their struggling characters well, and succeeded in portraying a very believable friendship on-screen. Also worth noting is that the real Travis Freeman has a cameo in the movie.

*23 Blast* represents a number of firsts, as it is the directorial debut from long-time actor Dylan Baker, as well as the first screenplay to be penned by Bram Hoover, both of whom starred in the movie - Dylan Baker in a smaller role as Travis' dad, Larry, and Bram Hoover as Jerry.

Dylan Baker demonstrates with his work on *23 Blast* that he is a skilled director. As far as production goes, it is great on all fronts. Also worth noting is that the screenplay is very well written, and the soundtrack is excellent.

*23 Blast* is an inspirational underdog sports drama with high production values and great acting all around. In a day and age where sports movies are so common, *23 Blast* proves itself a winner.



**Title:**  
**PASS THE LIGHT**

**Rating:**



**Starring:**  
**Cameron Palatas, Jon Gries,  
Alexandria Deberry, Dapre  
Grayer, Lawrence Saint-  
Victor**

**Written by:**  
**Victor Hawks**

**Directed by:**  
**Malcolm Goodwin**

**Genre:**  
**Drama**

**Running Time:**  
**112 minutes**

**MPAA Rating:**  
**TBA**

**Production Company:**  
**Vision Vehicle Productions**

**Released by:**  
**DigiNext**

**Reviewed by:**  
**Leah St John  
(& Christian St John)**

**Release Date:**  
**Feb 6, 2015 : Theatrical**

## MOVIE REVIEW

**F**ranklin Baumann (Jon Gries, *Taken*) is a well respected politician running for congress. But after 17 year old high-school student Steve Bellafiore (Cameron Palatas, *Zach Stone Is Gonna Be Famous*) recognizes that Franklin's campaign is built upon hatred, intolerance, and exclusion, he decides to run for Congress himself. So with the help of his family, friends, and classmates, he starts a campaign - Operation Pass the Light - that promotes kindness, love, and acceptance without judgement, and strives to make a real difference in his community.

*Pass The Light* is a fantastic movie! It is highly entertaining and extremely well made. In addition, it poignantly addresses a number of issues that are currently hot topics (especially in the church) that often drive a wedge between people and their ideologies/beliefs - homosexuality, bullying, broken marriages, judging others, unemployment, and more. After watching the movie I was left thinking about it for days thereafter. And I think that's a sign of a great movie... one that stays with you.





**“We can not choose hate.  
We have to choose each other.”**

**- Steve Bellafiore**

*Pacific*) penned an amazing screenplay. The film is exceptionally produced on all fronts - it even has a choice soundtrack, with songs that fit perfectly in the scenes they were used, and effectively add to the atmosphere of the movie.

*Pass The Light* is a timely movie that deals with relevant issues, and promotes a message of kindness, love, faith, and acceptance. It is an outstanding feature with high production values, superb acting, and has a lot of heart. After watching it, you will undoubtedly leave feeling inspired.

If I could give *Pass The Light* more than 5 stars, I would. I can safely say that I wouldn't hesitate to watch this movie again, and more than once. I pray that *Pass The Light* receives the recognition it deserves.

---

**Christian's Take:** In 1995 dc Talk released an album that would forever change Christian music. That album was *Jesus Freak* and it was a game changer. For years I have been waiting for a movie to come along that would be the game changer for the Christian movie industry. And I wouldn't be surprised if *Pass The Light* was that movie.

Over the years I have watched literally hundreds of Christian and faith-based movies and very rarely does one come across a movie of this caliber. *Pass The Light* is an outstanding movie. At first I thought, "oh no, not another youth movie!" But as the movie got going I knew that this was going to be something special.

After watching *Pass The Light* and taking some time to think things through I would have to predict that *Pass The Light* is going to be the must see movie of the year. If I'm honest, it's one of the best Christian movie's ever made.

*Pass The Light* is undoubtedly a "Christian" movie. Throughout the movie, many of the characters pray, quote the Bible, and go to church. But all of this comes across in a very natural way and is not pushy or in your face. The main character in the movie, Steve, sets a good example for all Christians, as he seeks to live a life of faith, selflessness, thoughtfulness, kindness, and love. He displays his faith through action without expecting any credit or kudos, and stands up for what he believes in, regardless of the consequences.

All of the actors seemed very comfortable in their respective roles. *Pass The Light* was very well cast all around; as a whole the cast portray their characters with believability and conviction. And though the movie stars mainly teenagers, it is suitable for adults too, because as I mentioned before, it deals with topics relevant to all age groups.

Malcolm Goodwin (TV's *Breakout Kings*) did a wonderful job behind the camera this time directing *Pass The Light*. And Victor Hawks (Broadway's *Les Miserables* & *South*



# IN PLAIN SIGHT

## STORIES OF HOPE AND FREEDOM



### An exclusive interview with filmmaker David Trotter

**D**avid Trotter used to be a pastor. Now he's a documentary filmmaker trying to make a difference through his films.

David's first film was an eye-opening film called *MOTHER INDIA: THROUGH THE EYES OF THE ORPHAN* which followed the plight of 25 orphaned and abandoned children living alongside a railway in India.

His latest film - *IN PLAIN SIGHT* - is a hard-hitting film about sex trafficking in the USA and what some brave people are doing to save young girls from this living nightmare (click to read review).

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Executive Producer  
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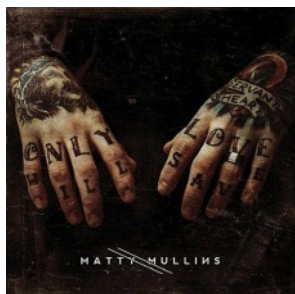
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# OUR TOP MUSIC PICKS 2014

2014 was a great year for the Christian music scene. We saw many fantastic debut releases from artists such as LNYX, We Are Leo, Shuree, NF, HillaryJane, Spencer Kane, Steve Taylor & The Perfect Foil, and Matty Mullins. There were also many notable coming-of-age albums in which artists seem to have found themselves, and a sound that they can call their own. Some such artists include Family Force 5, Sanctus Real, Manic Drive, Chris Tomlin, and Fit For A King.

Here are some of our top picks from 2014...

## LEAH'S TOP 5



### MATTY MULLINS "MATTY MULLINS"

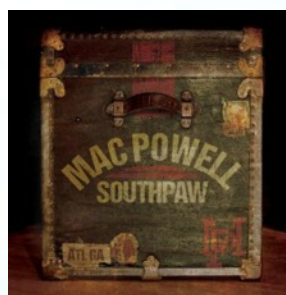
Perhaps most well known as the vocalist for metalcore band Memphis May Fire, this self-titled pop/rock worship album is Matty Mullins' debut solo release. Matty Mullins' self-titled release is one of a kind – original and unique – and I can't say that too often. It's not often an album like this gets released. It's energetic, captivating, unique and

original. I love synth, pop, and rock, and this is a masterful combination of them all. ([Read Review](#))



### NEEDTOBREATHE "RIVERS IN THE WASTELAND"

NEEDTOBREATHE's fifth studio album, *Rivers In The Wasteland* takes its name from Isaiah 43:19. Brimming with thoughtful lyrics and friendly southern rock tunes, this is an all-around champion release. A fantastic album crafted by southern rockers NEEDTOBREATHE, *Rivers In The Wasteland* is undoubtedly their best release yet.



### MAC POWELL "SOUTHPAW"

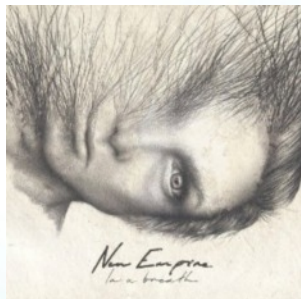
An out-and-out country rock album, *Southpaw* is Mac Powell's (Third Day) sophomore solo release. Full of toe-tapping country tunes, there isn't one track on *Southpaw* that could be considered "filler". Between Mac Powell's fantastic vocals (that are very well suited to country music!), the great musicianship displayed throughout, and

wonderful songwriting (and storytelling), *Southpaw* is an all around excellent release! ([Read Review](#))



### WE ARE LEO "FIGHTBACK SOUNDTRACK"

We Are Leo are not your typical electronic pop band. While the music addition of the up front electric guitars (guitar solos anyone?!) and percussion within their music further defines them from other electronic pop bands out there. *Fightback Soundtrack* is a stand out album, in the current Christian music scene. And at this point in time, I can think of few bands that have the same electronic pop-rock ambiance as We Are Leo. ([Read Review](#))



### NEW EMPIRE "IN A BREATH"

An Australian pop-rock/indie-rock band, New Empire's third studio album, *In A Breath*, is a breath of fresh air (pun intended). The band pairs brilliantly pairs first rate musical talent with some sound lyrics and awesome vocals. With lyrics that carry an essence of hope, New Empire have captured a unique atmosphere within their music - energetic and upbeat, yet at the same time, peaceful and haunting. *In a Breath* is a memorable album that has graced my headphones with its presence many times since its release, and will undoubtedly continue to do so.

### Leah's 25 WORTHY MENTIONS

- Anberlin - Lowborn
- Thousand Foot Krutch - OXYGEN:INHALE
- for King & Country - RUN WILD. LIVE FREE. LOVE STRONG.
- The Classic Crime - What Was Done, Vol. 1: A Decade Revisited
- Steve Taylor & The Perfect Foil - Goliath
- Family Force 5 - Time Stands Still
- Remedy Drive - Commodity
- Colton Dixon - Anchor
- Moriah Peters - Brave
- LNYX - Captivate EP
- Tenth Avenue North - Cathedrals
- Chris Tomlin - Love Ran Red
- Project 86 - Knives to the Future
- Archers Rise - Jupiter Bound
- Hunter G.K. Thompson - Swan Song
- P.O.D. - SoCal Sessions
- Casting Crowns - Thrive
- Planetshakers - This Is Our Time
- Coperlily - Love Is A Legend
- Owl City - Ultraviolet
- Disciple - Attack
- Danny Gokey - Hope In Front of Me
- Group 1 Crew - #FASTER
- Switchfoot - The Edge of the Earth
- Tim Neufeld - The Joy

# CHRISTIAN'S TOP 5



## EMPIRE 21 "EMPIRE 21"

European, anthemic, commercial power metal featuring guitar virtuoso CJ Grimmark (Narnia)...

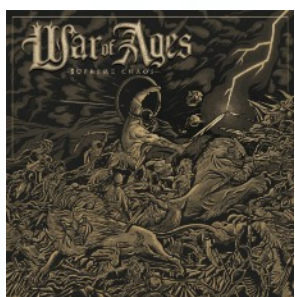
what more can one ask for? Featuring heavy guitar driven melodies, great soaring vocals, keys, and some insanely fast, shredding solos, all bought together over a backdrop of thundering bass and pounding drums, this album contains 11 tracks of blistering metal that deserves a few spins.



## DISCIPLE "ATTACK"

*Attack* is a heavy and powerful album. From the opening words, "Till the day I die, I'll be a radical"

which is sung over a nice southern metal guitar riff, to the final words on the album, "My God will make a way even when it seems that there's no way, With God it's never too late, With God it's never too late", it's obvious that Disciple play and sing for Jesus. ([Read Review](#))

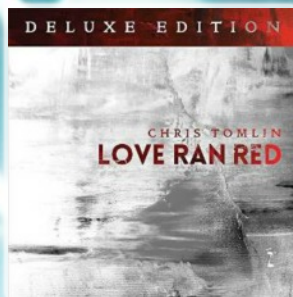


## WAR OF AGES "SUPREME CHAOS"

*Supreme Chaos* is a hard album, and fans of Demon Hunter, For Today, Testament, The

Showdown, and the like, should love it. But rest assured it's not as brutal as many of the recent metal releases (The Reformers, Those Who Fear). I

found *Supreme Chaos* to be a lot more listenable, which in turn (for me) makes it much more enjoyable. ([Read Review](#))



## CHRIS TOMLIN "LOVE RAN RED"

For almost 20 years Chris Tomlin has been playing worship. And it shows.

*Love Ran Red* is his 13th

release and I have to be honest and say that, although Chris' other releases are good and worthy of listening to, this album blows them all away! Every track on *Love Ran Red* is amazingly written and played, and the album as a whole is possibly the best worship album I have ever heard. I have no doubt that before too long churches will be singing songs from this album in their times of worship. ([Read Review](#))



## TOURNIQUET "ONWARD TO FREEDOM"

For 25 years Tourniquet's music has taken fans on an hard musical odyssey

from all out thrash to stoner metal to hard rock to hardcore. And they are a band that rarely fails to impress. This album is no exception... in my humble opinion it is by far their best work since *Psycho Surgery* (1991). As always the lyrics are hard and uncompromising, and the music is expertly written and played, making *Onward to Freedom* an auditory treat for fans of the heavier side of music! ([Read Review](#))

## CHRISTIAN'S 25 WORTHY MENTIONS

- For Today - Fight the Silence
- Demon Hunter - Extremist
- Memphis May Fire - Unconditional
- Fit For A King - Slave To Nothing
- Darkness Divided - Written In Blood
- Desperation Band - Banner
- Casting Crowns - Thrive
- Harmony - Theater of Redemption
- Manafest - The Moment
- Guardian - Almost Home
- Michael Sweet - I'm Not Your Suicide
- Planetshakers - This Is Our Time
- Thousand Foot Krutch - OXYGEN:INHALE
- Hillsong - No Other Name
- Stryper - Live At The Whisky
- Colton Dixon - Anchor
- Lara Landon - There Is Grace
- Light Up The Darkness - Waiting
- P.O.D. - SoCal Sessions
- Seventh Day Slumber - We Are the Broken
- Crowder - Neon Steeple
- Project 86 - Knives to the Future
- Sanctus Real - The Dream
- Gideon - Calloused
- Michael W Smith - Sovereign

With a great year of music releases now behind us, we are pleased to say that there are many new releases to look forward to in the coming weeks, and months, of 2015!

Just some of the artists who have upcoming releases in 2015 include:

- RED
- NYVES
- Dustin Kensrue
- House of Heroes
- Third Day
- Fireflight
- Jon Foreman
- Sweet and Lynch
- Theocracy
- Pillar
- August Burns Red
- Bread of Stone
- Worldview
- And many more...

At Christian Review we are eagerly anticipating the release of the albums soon to be released by the aforementioned artists. And we're sure there will be many, many more announced as the year progresses!

*Editors Note:*

*These 'top picks' are the opinions of the individuals who compiled them. Each person has different taste in music, and so your opinions may differ to ours. As there were many great releases in 2014, our 'top picks' are not exhaustive.*

# TED TALKS



**T**ed Kirkpatrick is the founder, songwriter, and drummer for the American heavy metal band Tourniquet. Since the early 1990's Tourniquet have pounded out their fusion of thrash, progressive metal, and neo-classical music singing about topics and issues such as salvation through Jesus and animal rights.

*ONWARD TO FREEDOM* is Tourniquet's ninth studio release and is unique in that it stands alone as the only album in music history that focuses entirely on animal rights. It also features many guest musicians including Michael Sweet (Stryper), Mattie Montgomery (For Today), Dug Pinnick (King's X), Kevin Young (Disciple), Rex Carroll (King James), and Tony Palacios (Guardian), among many others... oh an Ed Asner appears on the album too!

Christian St John recently talked with Ted about his latest album...

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TED KIRKPATRICK

# TOURNIQUET

## ONWARD TO FREEDOM

THE AMAZING NEW ALBUM  
FEATURING THE TALENTS OF...



Michael Sweet



Ed Asner



Ashley Argota



Marty Friedman



Dug Pinnick



Gabbie Rae

### ONWARD TO FREEDOM



an anthem for the voiceless



Chris Poland



Blake Suddath



Mattie Montgomery



Kevin Young



Bruce Franklin



Luke Easter



Aaron Guerra



Tony Palacios



Nick Villars



Rex Carroll



# MUSIC REVIEW



**Artist:**  
**STEVE TAYLOR & THE PERFECT FOIL**

**Album:**  
**GOLIATH**

**Rating:**



**Genre:**  
**Rock, Indie Rock, Alternative Rock, Post-punk, Modern Rock N' Roll**

**For Fans Of:**  
**Neon Horse, Late 1970's/Early 1980's Rock**

**Label:**  
**Splint Entertainment**

**Reviewed by:**  
**Leah St John**

**Release Date:**  
**Available Now**



**STEVE TALKS: [CLICK HERE TO READ OUR INTERVIEW WITH STEVE TAYLOR](#)**

Steve Taylor & The Perfect Foil is a band made up of accomplished and very talented veteran musicians - Peter Furler (Newsboys), Jimmy Abegg (Charlie Peacock, Rich Mullins, A Ragamuffin Band), John Mark Painter (Fleming & John), and obviously Steve Taylor. *Goliath* is their debut release.

With the exception of a compilation appearance, and a couple of soundtrack singles, including "A Life Preserved", which was included on the *Blue Like Jazz* soundtrack (which Steve Taylor also directed, produced, and co-wrote the screenplay for), *Goliath* is the first album Steve Taylor has fronted in almost 20 years... and it doesn't disappoint.

I'll be the first to admit that *Goliath* has an utterly addictive sound. Up front electric guitars and bass, and pounding drums are the mainstay instruments throughout, and

Steve Taylor's rock n' roll vocals round out the mix.

With it's late 1970's early 1980's rock sensibilities and well written satirical lyrics, *Goliath* holds a unique place in the current music scene. Neon Horse (which at the time of this review, are no longer around [2007-2009]) is one of the only modern comparisons that I could think of that's on a par with Steve Taylor & The Perfect Foil.

While I understand that it won't be everybody's cup of tea, *Goliath* is an all around great rock album, and each track holds it's own. Some of my personal favorites are the bass driven title track "Goliath", "Rubberneck", and "The Sympathy Vote".

*Goliath* is a unique and memorable release from Steve Taylor & The Perfect Foil and I can't help but keep going back to it!

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# ZANE GUITARS

CUSTOM GUITARS  
EST. 2012

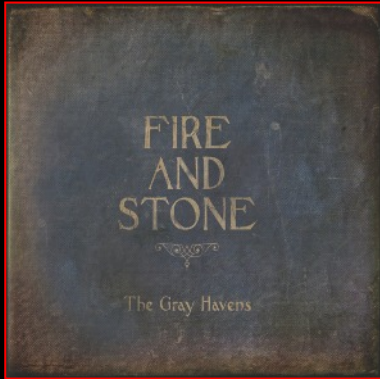
FACT: FIRE & STONE IS A METAPHOR ABOUT DISTINGUISHING BETWEEN WHAT REALLY FUELS JOY, AND WHAT MERELY PRETENDS TO.

# FIRE AND STONE



The Gray Havens

## MUSIC REVIEW



**Artist:**  
**THE GRAY HAVENS**

**Album:**  
**FIRE AND STONE**

**Rating:**



**Genre:**  
**Worship, Folk**

**For Fans Of:**  
**Rend Collective ,  
Copperlily**

**Label:**  
**The Gray Haven Music**

**Band Website:**  
**TheGrayHavensMusic.com**

**Reviewed by:**  
**Leah St John**

**Release Date:**  
**January 6, 2015**

**T**he Gray Havens is a folk worship/singer-songwriter duo, made up of a husband and wife team, Dave and Licia Radford. *Fire And Stone* is their debut full length album.

*Fire And Stone* is a wonderful debut release from The Gray Havens, both musically and lyrically speaking.

Musically, *Fire And Stone* encompasses folk, worship, pop, and singer-songwriter sensibilities, bringing them together to create something unique. The album is lead primarily by keys and guitars, as well as vocals provided by the husband and wife duo, but a good number of other elements and influences can also be heard peppered throughout the release. Needless to say, the music of The Gray Havens wouldn't fit into a specific box, as it crosses a number of genre borders.

*Fire And Stone* is a lovely album to listen to. The lyrics are very well written, and hold meaning and depth. Right from the get-go, it is easy to tell that those who wrote the

lyrics are natural born storytellers. Through the use of creatively penned narrative, each track presents the listener with a story of some sort, which in turn leaves you with something to think about.

*"Good, beautiful stories plunge the reader into a fictional world in such a way that when they come out again, they perceive the real world more clearly and with more joy than before. In much the same way, song lyrics-when married to the right melody-can penetrate the heart. Story plays such a huge part in our songs because powerful narratives have been so transforming for us personally."*  
- Dave Radford

With its lively and unique musicality, alongside the poignant narrative lyrics, *Fire And Stone* is a great debut album from The Gray Havens. I thoroughly enjoyed this album from its first note to its last, and I look forward to seeing (and hearing) the duo grow and hone their obvious talents on future releases.

**J**ericho (Jeremy Robinson) is a Christian rapper from Tennessee. His debut album **ROAD TO REDEMPTION** is a hard hitting collection of songs that tackles issues such as addiction, divorce, church, money, spiritual warfare, and worship.

**We caught up with him to ask a few questions...**

Christian Review (CR) - How did you get involved in the Christian music scene?

Jericho - I was doing secular music for years. I made it pretty far. I was even was in a video at Cee-Lo Green's house with some peers. But at the end of the day, I was still empty, broken and knew I needed something else. I was living in an apartment in Nashville and realized I needed to get away from everything. So I moved into my van in a Wal-mart parking lot for 3-1/2 months. During that time i knew God had a calling on my life so I started writing songs that were real and honest.

CR - Is there meaning behind the name Jericho?

Jericho - Yes there is. When I was praying about a stage name I felt



like God was telling me I had all these walls built up like pride, etc. God tore them down and told me not to rebuild them.

CR - Your songs are pretty hardcore. What is the message behind your music?

Jericho - Most of Christian music doesn't deal with real issues that we as believers and non-believers face. I don't understand why artist don't talk about more issues that we deal with. When I started writing Christian music I told God I wasn't going to be fake, I was going to be transparent. I feel like thats what I am.

CR - How has the new album *Road 2 Redemption* been received?

Jericho - The funny thing is a lot of secular artists have told me how much it has touched them. Also people of all ages are saying that it's so refreshing because its open and honest.

CR - What's coming up for Jericho?

Jericho - Tour, tour, tour, tour.

---

Jericho's new album *ROAD TO REDEMPTION* is available now. You can learn more about Jericho at his website [www.pray4jericho.com](http://www.pray4jericho.com)

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# MUSIC REVIEW



Artist:  
**HUNTER G.K. THOMPSON**

Album:  
**SWAN SONG**

Rating:



Genre:  
**Singer/Songwriter,  
Worship**

For Fans Of:  
**Jack Johnson. Northern  
Abbey**

Label:  
**Bethel Music**

Website:  
**www.BethelMusic.com**

Reviewed by:  
**Leah St John**

Release Date:  
**Available Now**

**H**unter G. K. Thompson is a songwriter and worship leader at Redding, CA based Bethel Church. *Swan Song* is Thompson's sophomore solo release, having been preceded by Gabriel Kansas, an EP he released in early 2013.

*Swan Song*, another EP, contains 5 fantastic original tracks, each one proving Thompson's impressive talent as a songwriter and musician. It is a slower paced release that has a hauntingly peaceful atmosphere.

From the opening track to its final notes, *Swan Song* emits a strong singer / songwriter vibe. The album is essentially lead by acoustic guitars and vocals, but strings, electric guitar, bass, keys, and percussion make appearances throughout.

"The only way to God is through the Son, through those eyes of fire."  
- Maranatha

Thompson has penned some heartfelt, wholly Christ-centered lyrics - they are almost poetic in nature. Each track, though the lyrics do vary, holds tight to a common theme. They focus on living a life of love and devotion to Jesus through both the good times and the hard, placing great value on our personal relationship with Him.

"Jesus Christ, it's for love I give my life. Through my days and through my nights, I choose to love You rightly" - To Love You Rightly

Between the great musical arrangements, thoughtfully written worshipful lyrics, and Hunter Thompson's purely emotive vocals, *Swan Song* is a wonderful release. As *Swan Song* came to a close, it left me longing for more. I am not ashamed to admit I pressed the replay button on my iPod more than once. Needless to say, I am more than looking forward to whatever musical offering Hunter Thompson might bring forth to us in the future.







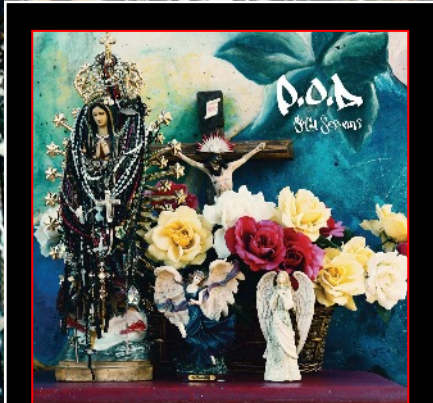
# MUSIC REVIEW

# P.O.D.

SoCal Sessions



**FACT: THE BANDS NAME – P.O.D. – MEANS PAYABLE ON DEATH**



**Artist:**  
**P.O.D.**

**Album:**  
**SoCal Sessions**

**Rating:**  
★★★★★

**Genre:**  
**Rock, Acoustic, Reggae**

**Label:**  
**UMe (T-Boy Records and Universal Music Enterprises)**

**Band Website:**  
**PayableOnDeath.com**

**Reviewed by:**  
**Leah St John**

**Release Date:**  
**Available Now**

**P**.O.D. has been producing music for over two decades. It only seems fitting that they should release an acoustic album that includes some of their biggest hits and fan favorites from over the years, including "Alive", "Lost In Forever", and "Youth of the Nation".

First off, don't expect any new songs from POD on this album. *SoCal Sessions* features 12 tracks, each of them an unplugged version of a song that has previously been added to the P.O.D. catalogue. And while all of the tracks on the record are acoustic, they maintain that 'big' sound that was originally present on the songs.

Musically, *SoCal Sessions* is driven/lead by acoustic guitars and vocals, with a variety of percussion more frequently present than not. Other musical elements also find their

way into the mix. Their reggae influenced hard rock sound translates well to an acoustic front, and as one would expect from P.O.D, excellent musicianship is displayed throughout the entire release.

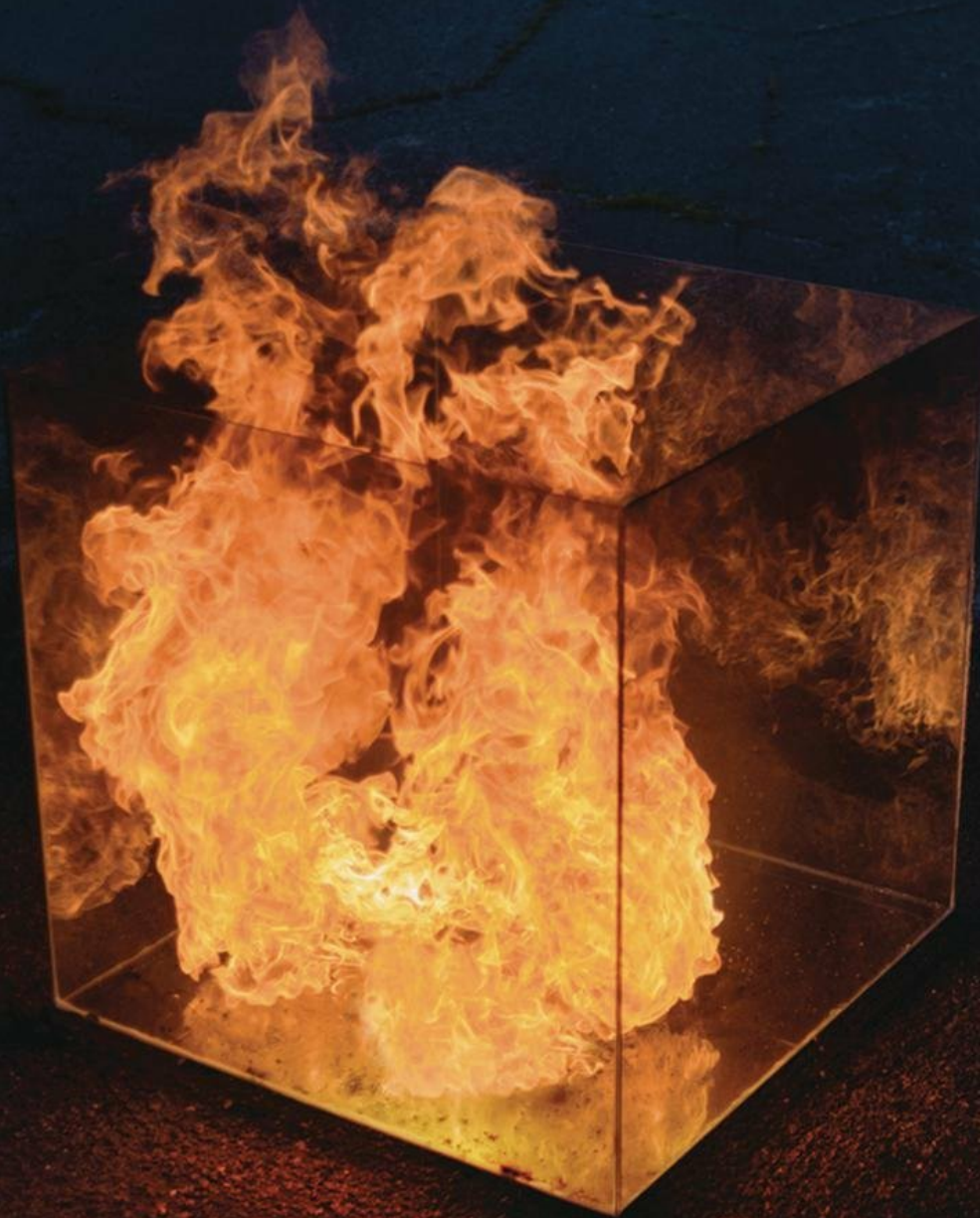
Obviously, the lyrics are great, as P.O.D. is well known for penning poignant hard hitting lyrics that tell stories. The new musical arrangements paired with the already existing melodies and lyrics result in fresh 'new' versions of older songs. They also present a little bit more of the 'mellow' side of P.O.D.; a side that fans don't often get to hear.

The first ever acoustic album from P.O.D. makes for some great listening, both for existing fans, and those who like acoustic albums. Overall, *SoCal Seesions* is a fantastic album.

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# MUSIC REVIEW



**Artist:**  
**FOUR STAR REVIVAL**

**Album:**  
**KNIGHTS OF THE REVIVAL**

**Rating:**



**Genre:**  
**Hard Rock, Heavy Metal, Thrash**

**For Fans Of:**  
**Rob Rock, 1980s Metal**

**Label:**  
**Aztec Records**

**Reviewed by:**  
**Christian St John**

**Release Date:**  
**Available Now**



In 1982 I discovered heavy metal and I have been a metalhead ever since. I spent most of my formative years listening exclusively to bands such as Iron Maiden, Judas Priest, and the like. And even though my music tastes have broadened over the years, I still have a fondness for anything metal.

Four Star Revival hails from Dayton, Ohio and the guys in the band pound out song after song of some of the biggest and purest metal I have heard in a long time.

After a brief musical intro the band kick it into high gear with the incredible track "Red". Crunching guitars and a killer riff that wouldn't be amiss on an early Ozzy album (think Jake E. Lee era), pounding drums and bass, and some of the best heavy metal vocals I have heard in years, this track sets a high standard for the rest of the album. And I'm pleased to say that the rest of the album follows suit, featuring an excellent mix of old school hard rock and thrash driven metal.

As you listen don't be surprised if you hear elements in Four Star Revival's music that are reminiscent of some of the best bands in 1980s heavy metal - Ozzy, Judas Priest,

Dio, Manowar, Metallica, and Megadeth, to name but a few. But Four Star Revival are much more than a rip-off or second rate tribute band. These boys can handle their chosen weapons of warfare (i.e. their instruments) well and write songs that are a pleasure to listen to (I've listened to the album several times already).

Faith wise, there's no doubt that this is a Christian album. The lyrics on this album speak volumes of the band's faith in God...

**"We fight the fight that never ends, The grace of God is what we depend, We fight for good and what is right, We stand for love till the end of time." - Home**

There are a couple of weaker tracks on the album, but for the most part *Knights of the Revival* is well produced, expertly played, and has a big sound that is sure to please any old school metalhead like me. There are also a couple of softer songs which showed a different side to Four Star Revival's musicality.

**INFO: THE BAND'S NAME MEANS A REVIVAL OF SEEKING JESUS**

an interview with

# STEVE TAYLOR



**S**teve Taylor has been in the Christian music scene since 1982. During that time he has released 6 studio and 2 live albums. On his latest album “Goliath” he worked alongside Nashville recording artists John Mark Painter (of Fleming & John), Jimmy Abegg (formerly of California band, Vector), and Peter Furler (ex-Newsboys vocalist) - together they are collectively known as Steve Taylor & The Perfect Foil.

Recently we got to ask Mr. Taylor some questions...

Christian Review (CR) - You have been in the music industry since the early 1980's (over 30 years!). How has it changed for you over the years?

**Steve Taylor (ST) - The “hanging with your friends in the recording studio to make music” part has changed very little. What happens afterwards is almost unrecognizable, and that’s fine with me. I prefer making music in 2014 to 1984.**

CR - It's been 20+ years since you last released a studio album (“Squint” back in 1993). Was it exciting to be fronting a musical project again? Did you find it at all daunting with everything that has changed in the music making process?

**ST - It turns out I hadn’t completely forgotten how. The long break was good in that it made me appreciate how much faster and easier this is than making movies. And I’ve gotten to where I can almost tolerate my singing voice.**

CR - How did Steve Taylor & The Perfect Foil come together? Did you and the other members know each other beforehand, or did you first meet/collaborate through this band?

**ST - I can’t recall if the initial idea was Peter Furler’s or mine, but it was birthed from creative inertia — I’d spent over three years trying to raise money to make the “Blue Like Jazz” movie and it wasn’t going well. Peter and I have**



collaborated regularly since the early days of Newsboys — I produced a number of their albums since “Not Ashamed,” and Peter and I wrote a lot of their songs together. John Mark Painter and I have worked together on everything from Newsboys to Sixpence None The Richer to songs for Veggie Tales. And Jimmy and I have been friends for decades — we actually went to the same high school in Denver. So we started hanging out once or twice a week in John’s studio, and were getting close to finishing an album. Then a Kickstarter campaign miraculously funded the “Blue Like Jazz” movie, so I had to put the music on hold for a couple more years to make the movie.

CR - What has it been like working with other veterans of the music industry - John Mark Painter, Jimmy Abegg, and Peter Furler?

ST - It’s a nonstop party. Peter is my favorite melody writer. John is quite simply the best musician I’ve ever worked with. And Jimmy is a walking maelstrom of random creativity. It’s a four-way collaboration, and we’ve all got pretty high standards, so it seems

like a small miracle every time a song gets finished.

CR - Where do you draw inspiration for writing music/lyrics?

ST - We’ve got eclectic tastes as a band, and John’s got a massive vinyl collection in the studio control room, so we’re constantly pulling out old albums for inspiration, as well as referencing new bands we may have just discovered. For lyrics, I read a lot and am constantly jotting down ideas. I also take long drives on remote roads so I can sing really loud without bothering anybody and keep tweaking each line until it finally sounds right.

CR - For anyone who hasn’t yet listened to your new album, can you tell me if there is a collective theme that runs throughout “Goliath”, or does each track have a message of it’s own?

ST - There wasn’t a conscious theme running through the entire album — I doubt the four of us could ever agree on anything that esoteric. Even calling the song and the album “Goliath” was an afterthought months after the track was finished. But it somehow seemed

like an apt title. We live in a world full of bullies and group-think, but we also live in hope.

CR - In addition to your music career, you are a film-maker. You have directed a number of music videos, and more notably co-wrote, directed, and produced the feature films “The Second Chance” and “Blue Like Jazz”. How did you find your work was received?

ST - Both films had enthusiasts and detractors. And while many of the themes in both movies were informed by my Christianity, neither fit comfortably within the Christian movie establishment.

CR - Can we expect any film projects from you in the foreseeable future?

ST - I’m always working on new script ideas. It’s the money-raising part that’s soul-crushing — it’s hard to make anything worth watching for less than a few million dollars.

CR - What advice do you have for young musicians or filmmakers who want to begin careers in the industry?

ST - Be kind always.

# MUSIC REVIEW

FACT: MISTY HELPED START THE INTERNATIONAL HOUSE OF PRAYER IN 1999 AND HAS BEEN A WORSHIP LEADER AND SONGWRITER HERE EVER SINCE.



**Artist:**  
**MISTY EDWARDS**

**Album:**  
**LITTLE BIRD**

**Rating:**



**Genre:**  
**Singer/Songwriter,  
Experimental Worship**

**Label:**  
**Forerunner Music**

**Website:**  
**[www.MistyEdwards.com](http://www.MistyEdwards.com)**

**Reviewed by:**  
**Christian St John**

**Release Date:**  
**Available Now**

**M**isty Edwards is a senior leader and worship leader at the International House of Prayer, Kansas City (IHOPKC). She has released several worship albums and been featured on number of worship compilations and live event recordings.

*Little Bird*, is Misty's latest album and let me tell you it is very different from what she has previously released. In the past Misty's music has pretty much fallen squarely into the typical modern worship genre ala Hillsong, United, Desperation Band, Covenant Worship, et al. With *Little Bird*, Misty steps outside of the box to explore new musical territory.

Misty's style on *Little Bird* is singer / songwriter. But this album is so much more than your typical singer / songwriter release. Yes there are piano and acoustic guitar driven moments on *Little Bird*. Yes the music is softer and the tempo is a lot more slower paced on this one . And yes this is a heartfelt worship-filled album. But it's also eclectic musically speaking featuring music styles that range from 1960s sounding bass driven tunes ("Center of the Universe" more than reminded me of Jefferson Airplane's 'White Rabbit") to old


spirituals to ultra modern experimental tracks.

In a recent press release Misty stated, "*I don't think there is a line between the sacred and the secular.*" I think that *Little Bird* highlights this idea very well - a very secular sounding album that is filled with deep and thoughtful lyrics that invite the listener to ponder the deeper things of faith and God.

"It's like we're sitting in the dark,  
And we don't know it,  
Like we're hidden behind a veil,  
And we don't know it."  
- Womb of the Morning

*Little Bird* is a very different album that reveals a more creative, arty side to Misty Edwards without becoming self indulgent. I know Misty is a worship leader, but I find it hard to envision the songs on this album sung and played in a church environment. Instead I would expect to find Misty playing the songs on *Little Bird* in a Jazz club or coffee bar.

**A celebration of ministry and faith that contains some of the most impacting modern worship songs including *Shout To The Lord, Power Of Your Love, The Potter's Hand*, and the new song *My Highest Hope*.**

A close-up portrait of Darlene Zschech, a woman with long blonde hair and green eyes, smiling warmly. The background of the portrait is a soft, warm orange color.

**IN  
JESUS'  
NAME**

**Darlene Zschech**  
A LEGACY OF WORSHIP & FAITH

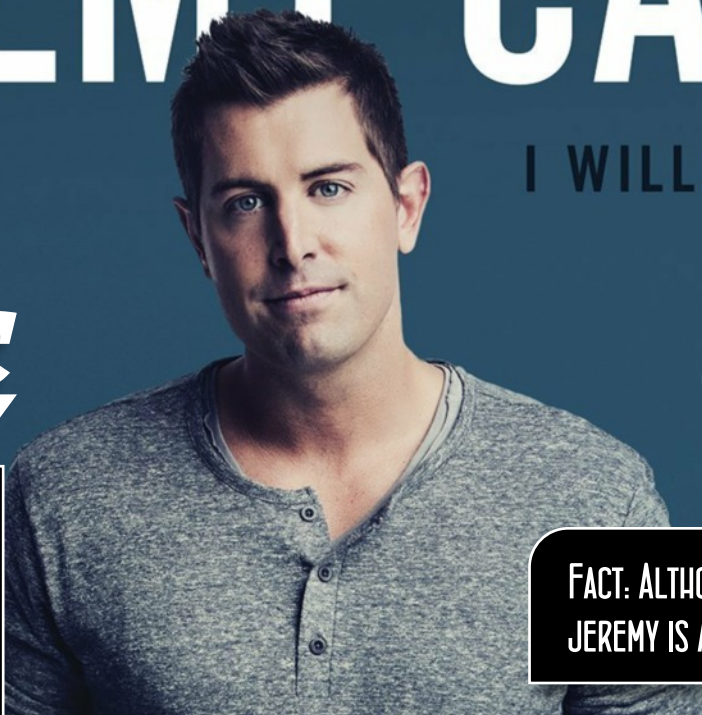
**Available February 10, 2015**



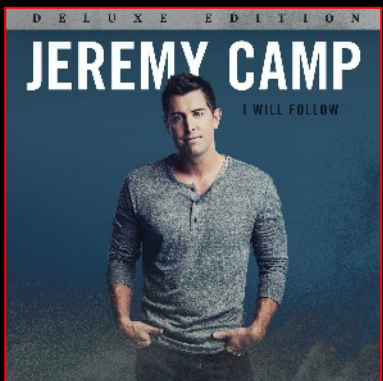
# JEREMY CAMP

I WILL FOLLOW

## MUSIC REVIEW



**FACT: ALTHOUGH HIS CAREER IS IN MUSIC JEREMY IS ALSO AN ORDAINED MINISTER**



**Artist:**  
**JEREMY CAMP**

**Album:**  
**I WILL FOLLOW**

**Rating:**



**Genre:**  
**CCM, Light Rock, Worship**

**For Fans Of:**  
**Matthew West, Daughtry, Newsboys**

**Label:**  
**Sparrow (Universal)**

**Band Website:**  
**www.JeremyCamp.com**

**Reviewed by:**  
**Christian St John**

**Release Date:**  
**February 3, 2015**

**J**eremy Camp is without doubt one of the hardest working and biggest names in the CCM world. In a career that has spanned the past 15 years he has released a number of award winning best-selling albums and singles, and his songs are regulars on Christian radio station play lists.

*I Will Follow* is his latest album and I have to say that it is by far and away Jeremy's best work to date. I thought *Reckless* (2013) was a great album and a return to form for Mr. Camp and as a follow up, *I Will Follow* is an outstanding album!

Musically this album is very similar to *Reckless* (2013) in that there is a lot of musical diversity on it. There's CCM in the vein of Newsboys / Matthew West ("Only In You", "Finally Home", "Here I Am"), light rock reminiscent of Aerosmith / Daughtry ("Living Word", "I Will Follow", "Can't Be Moved"), and a number of power ballads ("He Knows", "Christ In Me").

*I Will Follow* features acoustic and electric guitar, as well as piano driven tunes, some

nice key work, and of course excellent vocal arrangements. The album is well produced and mixed, and I really liked the overall finished sound especially in the percussion department... big drums!

Lyricaly, *I Will Follow* is deeply rooted in the faith, hope, and love that only comes from Jesus. Jeremy Camp has never been one to shy away from God centered and honoring lyrics, and the songs on this album are no exception. They are at once worshipful and powerful.

**"We need your Spirit now,  
Come and move in us."  
- "Spirit Now"**

A mixture of CCM, light rock, power ballads, and of course Jeremy's unmistakable voice, *I Will Follow* is a release Mr. Camp can be proud of. The way I see it, the only problem I can see is this is going to be a hard album to follow.



DONALD MILLER

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CLOSE

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best-selling author of  
**Blue Like Jazz**



TED KIRKPATRICK

# TOURNIQUET

ONWARD TO FREEDOM

## MUSIC REVIEW

DID YOU KNOW: BECAUSE THEY OFTEN COMBINE CLASSICAL MUSIC AND TECHNICAL METAL, TOURNIQUET'S MUSIC HAS BEEN DESCRIBED AS BEETHOVEN MEETS FRANKENSTEIN!



Artist:  
**TOURNIQUET**

Album:  
**ONWARD TO FREEDOM**

Rating:



Genre:  
**Thrash, Metal, Metalcore,  
Hard Rock**

For Fans Of:  
**Disciple, For Today,  
Megadeth**

Label:  
**Pathogenic Records**

Band Website:  
**www.Tourniquet.net**

Reviewed by:  
**Christian St John**

Release Date:  
**Available Now**

**T**ourniquet are a band that is known by their fans for their often intense thrash sound and in-your-face lyrics that speak on issues such as faith, God, and animal rights. *Onward to Freedom* is Tourniquet's latest offering.

With founder and drummer Ted Kirkpatrick at the helm, *Onward to Freedom* features an all star line up of guest singers and musicians including Michael Sweet (Stryper), Mattie Montgomery (For Today), Dug Pinnick (King's X), and Kevin Young (Disciple). Because of this, *Onward to Freedom* is a musically diverse album. With a thrash metal foundation, Ted and Co. work hard to also incorporate elements of metalcore, heavy metal, neo-classical, and hard rock into this album, giving it a massive scope, musically speaking.

As an album, *Onward to Freedom* is quite unique - this time round every song focuses on animal cruelty and animal rights. As such, the lyrics are all about all about animal cruelty and rights, so there are no faith lyrics on this one. Instead we get a look at animals and their relationship with humans.

"The Slave Ring" takes a look at the illegal world of dog fighting, "If I Had To Do the Killing" asks the question whether you could look an animal in the face and then kill them to eat them, and "Drowning In Air" tackles the issue of humans raping and polluting the oceans. Veteran actor, Ed Asner, lends his voice to narrate the powerful spoken word track, "The Nobel Case for Mercy" which really brings home the overall message of the album. There's also an excellent new version of the Tourniquet classic, "Stereotaxic Atrocities," a track taken from their first album.

For 25 years Tourniquet's music has taken fans on an hard musical odyssey from all out thrash to stoner metal to hard rock to hardcore. And they are a band that rarely fails to impress. This album is no exception... in my humble opinion it is by far their best work since *Psycho Surgery* (1991). As always the lyrics are hard and uncompromising, and the music is expertly written and played, making *Onward to Freedom* an auditory treat for fans of the heavier side of music!

# HARDIE AVENUE

# MUSIC REVIEW



**Artist:**  
**HARDIE AVENUE**

**Album:**  
**HARDIE AVENUE**

**Rating:**



**Genre:**  
**Rock, Hard Rock**

**For Fans Of:**  
**Pillar, TFK, Decyfer  
Down, Disciple, Project  
86, Emery**

**Label:**  
**Hardie Avenue**

**Band Website:**  
**[www.HardieAvenue.com](http://www.HardieAvenue.com)**

**Reviewed by:**  
**Leah St John**

**Release Date:**  
**Available Now**

**FACT: SINGER YURY MAYBA WAS ONCE KICKED OUT OF CHURCH FOR PLAYING ROCK MUSIC**

**H**ardie Avenue is a rock band that formed in 2005. Over the years, they have released a number of albums, as well as an EP. Their most recent release is a self-titled full-length album.

This band has improved leaps and bounds since their previous release. On their latest release, Hardie Avenue have discovered a sound that works for them, and they have upped their game, both musically and lyrically.

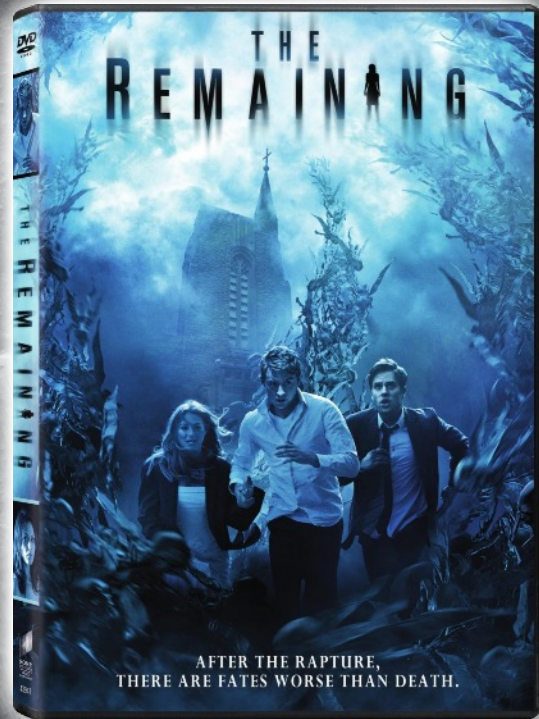
The band has cut out the majority of the hip-hop elements that resided on their previous release "Party At The End of the World" (2013), and have now gotten decidedly heavier. This new musical direction sees Hardie Avenue expanding their musical repertoire. As I mentioned before, this self-titled album displays a

notable improvement on their previous releases.

Hardie Avenue is essentially a hard rock album, with elements of nu-metal, dance, and synth thrown in. It all comes together nicely to form a well produced release, that does on occasion bear similarities to the music of Pillar, Decyfer Down, early TFK, and Disciple. Worth noting is that it includes tracks feat. Manafest ("Dance with My Hero") and Rob Beckley of Pillar ("Indestructible").

A good hard rock release, *Hardie Avenue* will appeal to fans of Pillar, Decyfer Down, and Disciple. If they stay the course and hold onto their newfound sound, Hardie Avenue could have a bright future ahead of them.

DVD, BLURAY & VOD January 27, 2015



"I COULD SEARCH THE WHOLE WORLD WIDE,  
AND NEVER FIND A LOVE LIKE YOURS."  
— A LOVE LIKE YOURS



## MUSIC REVIEW



**Artist:**  
**AARON GILLESPIE**

**Album:**  
**GRACE THROUGH THE  
WANDERING**

**Rating:**



**Genre:**  
**Worship, Pop**

**For Fans Of:**  
**Newsboys (early), U2,  
Matty Mullins**

**Label:**  
**BEC Recordings**

**Band Website:**  
**www.AaronGillespie.com**

**Reviewed by:**  
**Leah St John**

**Release Date:**  
**February 3, 2015**

Formerly of Underoath current frontman for The Almost, Aaron Gillespie released his debut solo album, *Anthem Song*, in 2011. Four year later, Gillespie returns with his long-anticipated sophomore solo album, a worship release titled *Grace Through The Wandering*.

Gillespie recorded *Grace Through The Wandering* while on the road, as he is currently serving as the touring drummer for platinum-selling band Paramore full time. This is an impressive feat, considering the high production value, as well as the lyrical and musical quality of the album.

**From a press release:** *With the help of producer Jon Howard, who tours with Paramore playing keys and providing background vocals, Aaron Gillespie recorded this album in 10 cities—from Paris to Tulsa. They carried gear and set up makeshift studios in hotel rooms. Only three tracks were recorded with his friend and producer Aaron Sprinkle in Nashville.*

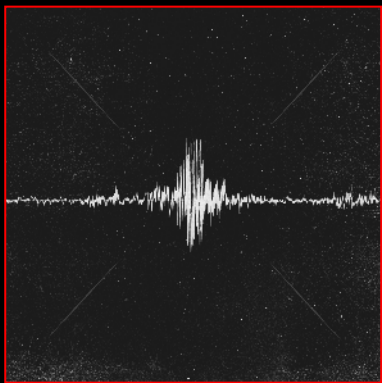
*Grace Through The Wandering* is a beautiful praise-filled release, that draws the listener in right from the get-go. All the tracks are individual, upbeat, memorable worship songs with a notable pop vibe.

Brimming with lyrics that openly express an adoration and love for God, one can recognize that Gillespie has an obvious heart for worship by listening to this release. True to its title, *Grace Through The Wandering* presents its listeners with a timeless message - through all of life's seasons, God offers us hope, love, and grace.

A fantastic follow up to *Anthem Song*, *Grace Through The Wandering* is a wonderful sophomore worship release from Aaron Gillespie. And much like *Anthem Song*, I am sure *Grace Through The Wandering* will grace my iPod more than a few times before Gillespie's next worship release.

# MUSIC REVIEW

**FACT: MEANT TO BE A CATALYST FOR OTHER WORSHIP COMMUNITIES TO TAKE HOLD OF WHAT IT MEANS TO "NOT BE SHAKEN," WE WILL NOT BE SHAKEN'S TITLE TRACK WAS BIRTHED IN A SPONTANEOUS MOMENT OF WORSHIP ON A SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE AT BETHEL.**



**Artist:**  
**BETHEL MUSIC**

**Album:**  
**WE WILL NOT BE SHAKEN**

**Rating:**



**Genre:**  
**Worship**

**For Fans Of:**  
**delirious?, Hillsong,  
United**

**Label:**  
**Bethel Music, Provident  
Music Distribution**

**Band Website:**  
**[www.BethelMusic.com](http://www.BethelMusic.com)**

**Reviewed by:**  
**Leah St John**

**Release Date:**  
**January 27, 2015**



**B**ased out of Redding, CA, Bethel Music is the worship ministry of Bethel Church. *We Will Not Be Shaken* is a live CD/DVD recorded during an intimate evening of worship lead by the Bethel Music Artist Collective, which includes Brian Johnson, Jenn Johnson, Hunter Thompson, Amanda Cook and Matt Stinton, as well as debut artists Kalley Heiligenthal, Hannah McClure, Paul McClure, Jonathan David Helser and Melissa Helser.

Recorded as a live CD/DVD, *We Will Not Be Shaken* includes 11 all new original songs from Bethel Music. It is an out-and-out worship release, on which each track contains lyrics that praise and glorify God, and point toward His faithfulness, love, and grace.

As for the DVD portion of the release, it was filmed in a beautiful setting on a

mountaintop overlooking Shasta Lake north of Redding, CA, providing a magnificent view alongside the worship set. It truly captures the energy and sincerity expressed by both the worship team and the audience. Considering the setting, and the fact that the live video was filmed in the evening (it transitions from day to night), the cinematography and directing were expertly handled. Needless to say, the production is great on all fronts.

Because of the vast number of contributing artists/vocalists/songwriters present on *We Will Not Be Shaken*, every track is bestowed with a certain uniqueness, and each one is superb at that. *We Will Not Be Shaken* is a beautiful worship album, only made that much better with the accompanying visual aspect provided.



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# CHAOTIC RESEMBLANCE



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God has blessed us with some amazing opportunities! We have directly opened for Y&T, Stephen Percy of Ratt, Devil City Angels, Faster Pussycat, Oz Fox of Stryper and even

Hip Hop Icon Kurtis Blow. We have also shared the stage with Thousand Foot Krutch, Seventh Day Slumber, KUTLESS, Since October, Stellar Kart, Hillbilly Vegas, The Wedding, PMtoday & Project86.

We played Rocklahoma 2014 and will again in 2015. And we also won Vegas stars of tomorrow award from vegas Rocks Magazine.


The new Chaotic album was produced by OZ Fox of STRYPER and is out now! Entitled "Get The Hell Out" you can find it on Amazon, at the i-Tunes store, CD Baby, or get one from us!

If you'd like to book us email [revrock777@yahoo.com](mailto:revrock777@yahoo.com)



Photo by Steve Lamb

# JEREMY CAMP



**W**hile he feels like he's "just beginning," Jeremy Camp has 12 years of accolades and accomplishments as a songwriter and recording artist, including four million albums sold, four RIAA Gold albums, a multi-platinum DVD, three American Music Award nominations and a GRAMMY nomination. He's been a part of more than 25 tours (headlining 18 of those) in the U.S. and has performed in more than 32 countries. Jeremy describes himself as "a minister who happens to play music as a way to minister."

Over the last year and a half, this ordained minister has experienced a season of artistic growth and musical creativity, evident with his new album, "I Will Follow". Recently, we caught up with Jeremy to ask him a few questions...

Christian Review (CR) - How did you come to be a part of the Christian music scene?

**Jeremy Camp (JC) - During and after Bible college, I lead worship at a ton of churches in Southern California. I didn't really think much about being in the Christian music scene and saw myself as more of a worship leader. Some friends said I should record a demo of songs that I had written, so I did and a friend gave it to someone who worked at a record label. The Lord opened the doors and I ended up signing a deal with them (BEC).**

CR - Did you find it hard to break into the scene?

**JC - It wasn't necessarily my goal to break into the scene. I had such a burden to share my testimony and what the Lord had done in my life after my wife passed away, that I didn't really mind who I played in front of, I just knew I had to keep sharing about God's faithfulness. I was honestly blown away by the doors He opened for me.**

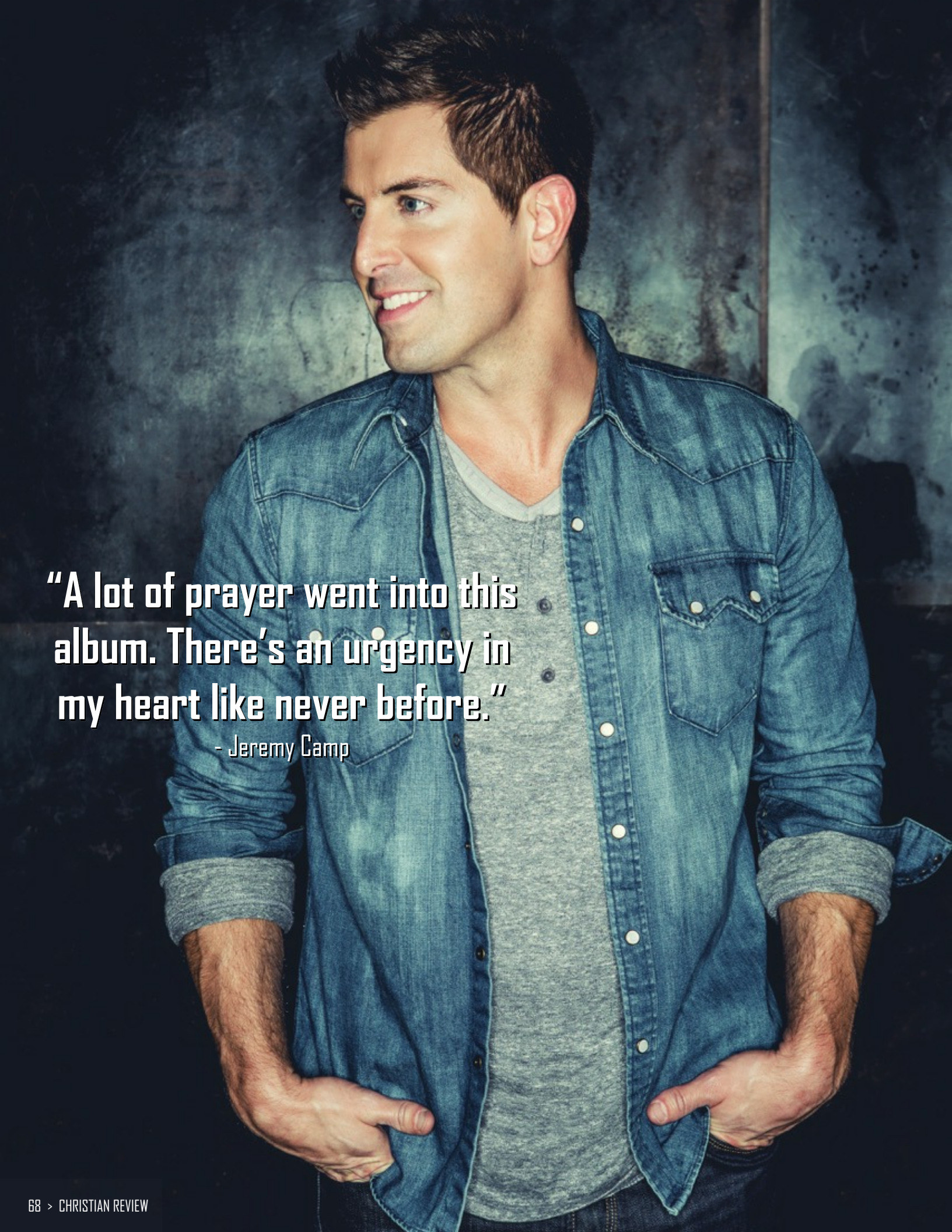
CR - "He Knows" is the first single from your upcoming album I Will Follow. How have you found it has been received?

**JC - People have been so encouraging. The response has been amazing!**

CR - We've had a listen to your new album, and have to say that it's probably your best work to date. It features many new musical elements that broaden your overall sound. Was this intentional, or did it just happen in the songwriting process?

**JC - Thanks so much, that's super encouraging. A lot of prayer went into this album. There's an urgency in my heart like never before. I really wanted it to be fresh and strong. I went in with the mindset of enjoying myself and enjoying the freedom I have in my relationship with the Lord. I tried**





**"A lot of prayer went into this album. There's an urgency in my heart like never before."**

- Jeremy Camp



**not to over think things, but at the same time be intentional with all the details and push myself as much as I could. I worked with some amazing song-writers on this album too, which gave it a fresh dynamic as well.**

CR - Where do you find inspiration for songwriting?

**JC - Without question from my relationship with Jesus. I want everyone to experience what I have found in Him. I believe He is truly the answer and I want to put my hope into my music and to share the Gospel with as many people as I can.**

CR - You are renowned for releasing powerful songs of worship. In light of this, do you find it hard to maintain your personal Christian walk with all of the work it takes to maintain a career in the Christian music scene?

**JC - I wouldn't say it's hard necessarily, but it is something I am committed to**

**and which requires discipline. It's been something that's been a part of my life for so long. But I don't ever want to just go through the motions either, I don't ever want to do it in my own strength. I want the Lord to be glorified through all of it, and I know better than to take it into my own hands.**

CR - You tour extensively throughout the year, but you are also a father and husband. Is touring difficult because of this?

**JC - Yes, it can be sometimes. Although I have an incredibly supportive wife and kids, I miss them a ton. My wife and I have often talked about how important it is for us to be present when we are together. What I mean by that is that you can have a regular job and be there physically, but not really be there for your kids. Although I don't have as much time with them, I really try to make sure they feel loved and that we're connected and I'm pouring into them.**

CR - Other than the release of your new album, is there anything exciting coming up?

**JC - Yes, with the release of my album "I Will Follow," we are also launching our new website for our ministry "Speaking Louder Ministries."**

**It's been something we've been working on for some time now and have had opportunities to share the Gospel and offer hope and help to many different parts of the world. We have some awesome places on the map for 2015 for hosting outreaches and ministry opportunities!**

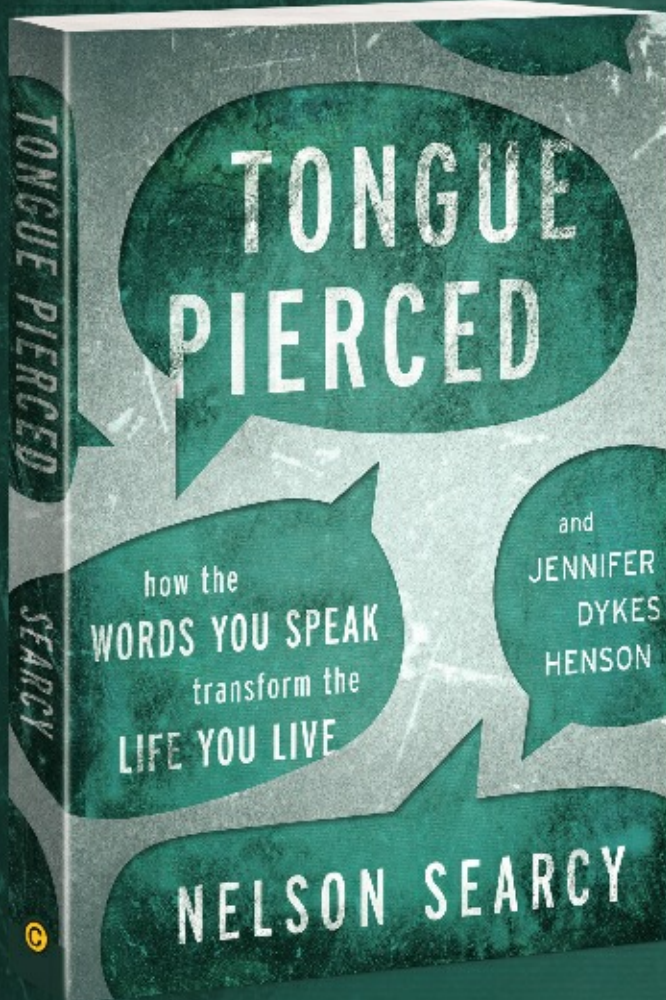
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**Jeremy's new album  
"I Will Follow"  
is released Feb 3, 2015**

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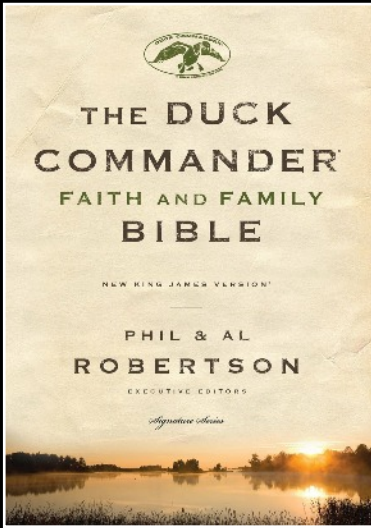
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# BOOK REVIEW

# THE DUCK COMMANDER FAITH AND FAMILY BIBLE



**Title:**  
**THE DUCK  
COMMANDER FAITH  
AND FAMILY BIBLE**

**Author:**  
**Phil Robertson, Al  
Robertson (Executive  
Editors)**

**Rating:**



**Genre:**  
**Bible, Study**

**Released by:**  
**Thomas Nelson**

**Reviewed by:**  
**Leah St John**

**Release Date:**  
**Available Now**

**F**rom the popular reality TV show, Duck Dynasty, Phil and Al Robertson serve as Executive Editors of *The Duck Commander Faith and Family Bible*. The text used in this Bible is the NKJV (New King James Version), so you know the translation is great.

What makes this Bible a little different is that it has added articles written by the aforementioned Robertson's, which offer insight into their personal Christian walks and encourage readers to dive deeper into God's word.

*The Duck Commander Faith and Family Bible* contains 125 articles by Phil and Al Robertson, in which they write about faith, family, fellowship, forgiveness, and freedom. In each article, they tackle a number of sub-topics, including love, fear, joy, temptation, marriage, and parenting. They often use personal stories and testimonies to convey a message, which are always paired with relevant supplementary scripture references. These articles are peppered throughout the Bible, but if you

are wanting to read about a specific topic, there is a topical index at the back of the Bible.

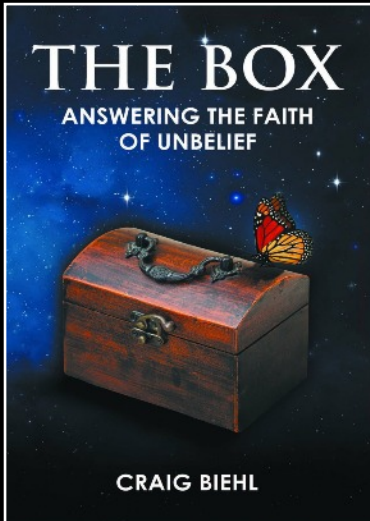
Located at the tail end of the Bible, there are a number of additional resources. A good reading plan is included, titled 30 Days With Jesus, and there are additional guides that point out verses that are relevant to the Ministry of Jesus, Parables of Jesus, Miracles of Jesus, and Miracles of the Apostles. Also included are The ABC's of Salvation, an A-Z guide that parallels a letter of the alphabet and relevant verse that pertains to Salvation.

A devotional Bible of sorts, *The Duck Commander Faith and Family Bible* is not only for Duck Dynasty fans, but for anyone who wants learn, through shared personal stories and testimonies, about the values of faith, family, fellowship, forgiveness, and freedom, from two men who have a combined sixty years of studying God's Word.

# BOOK REVIEW



**“At first glance, an atheist’s claim that “God does not exist” appears to be a simple statement about the existence of God. Yet it is so much more.”**  
**Craig Biehl**



**Title:**  
**THE BOX:  
ANSWERING THE  
FAITH OF UNBELIEF**

**Author:**  
**Craig Biehl**

**Rating:**




**Genre:**  
**Apologetics, Faith,  
Atheism, Christianity**

**Released by:**  
**PR Press**

**Reviewed by:**  
**Christian St John**

**Release Date:**  
**Available Now**

 In this day and age it seems that more and more people are turning to atheism or agnosticism - their ideals and ideologies - and simple unbelief. Maybe it's because they feel that religion free science, logic, and life makes more sense than ancient faith based systems. And while some atheists and unbelievers are content to live and let live, there are others who desire to openly critique and challenge other schools of thought especially, it seems, when it comes to Christian thinking and theology.

There are many opportunities in life where we can find ourselves talking openly about our faith with other believers, family, and friends. But what happens when we get into a conversation with an atheist, agnostic, or unbeliever, who is not content with 'because the Bible tells me so' answers? They may have valid questions, issues and problems with church, Christians, the Bible, creation, miracles, the idea of an all loving God, and so on. But many times these kinds of encounters can be very unnerving and leave one mentally and spiritually exhausted, especially if one is ill prepared.

*The Box* is a book that tries to help Christians see that it doesn't have to be that way, that defending the faith can be done so, not by theological argumentation or clever biblically loaded rhetoric, but by way

of a simple truth... so simple in fact it's revelatory. Forget hardcore theology, this book shows that a lot can be said with very few words. But these words form a powerful and thought provoking idea, one that will potentially leave even the most hardened atheist and non-believer speechless.

Over the years I have had many chats with atheists, agnostics, and unbelievers, and it would have been good to have had some of what's in this book on hand to bring into the conversation. Presented as a dialog between a believer and his unbelieving neighbor, *The Box* is an enjoyable and thought provoking read. It gets right to the heart of the issue without getting bogged down in Christian nuances and petty arguments. It's at once bold yet can be shared with unbelievers.

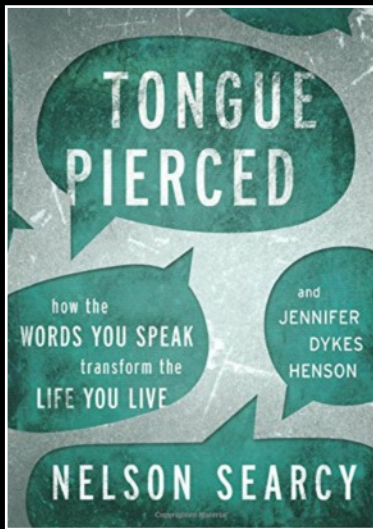
Whether you are a Christian apologist or simply a Sunday morning worshipper, *The Box* is a well written book that is well worth your time. It's not an overly long or complicated book, which is all the better considering you may wish to reread it a few times to glean all you can from it. Because let's face it, with unbelief on the rise it sure would be good to have some tools ready for the conversations that might well come our way.



# BOOK REVIEW



**“Death and life are in the power  
of the tongue” - Solomon  
(Proverbs 18:21, NKJV)**



**Title:**  
**TONGUE PIERCED**

**Author:**  
**Nelson Searcy, Jennifer  
Dykes Henson**

**Rating:**



**Genre:**  
**Christian Living,  
Religion**

**Released by:**  
**David C Cook**

**Reviewed by:**  
**Leah St John**

**Release Date:**  
**Available Now**

**W**ords. Though they may seem small and are an oft overlooked aspect of our lives, they actually play a tremendous part in shaping our lives, each and every day. They contain the power to both positively and negatively affect you personally, your relationships with those around you, as well as your relationship with God.

*Tounge Pierced* is a book that explores and reaffirms the magnificent power of words. It's clear mission is to help its readers learn to control their words, and use them to better their lives.

The book contains 9 informative chapters, each encouraging you to choose your words wisely, and offering tips on how you can effectively do so. Some of the topics include the power of words, prayer tips, how our thoughts affect various aspects of our lives, and the art of confrontation. There is also a 30-day no cursing challenge in one of the chapters.

***“The words that exemplify a tongue pierced lifestyle are words that reflect a heart filled with love;***

***words that will impact your reality in ways that will bring you the meaning, relationships and success you want.”***

Living a “tongue pierced” lifestyle is by no means a new concept. But it is something that has been forgotten, thrown by the wayside if you will, by multitudes of people who seem to pay little to no mind to the words that come out of their mouths (this includes myself). *Tongue Pierced* serves as a good reminder to this generation that if we consciously pay attention to what we say, we can change our own lives, and the lives of others, with words that impart love toward others and God.

A well written, well thought out guide, *Tongue Pierced* serves as a reminder that we need to choose our words wisely, because not only do they define us and reflect who we are, they affect those around us, and ultimately have an enormous impact on our relationships with both people and God.

## FEATURED AUTHOR



**LORILYN ROBERTS**

**T**wo days before my thirtieth birthday my ex-husband left me for another woman. The house was cold and empty and I thought I would never be happy again. I didn't want to live anymore and seriously considered ending my life.

However, life keeps moving forward just as God's kingdom advances unceasingly. I now have two beautiful internationally adopted daughters, I work at home providing broadcast captioning for television, and I just published my seventh book as an indie author.

Never give up on your dreams—commit your ways to God and He will give you so much more. If anything, I believe we make

God too small. We try to create Him in our image and then when our puny dreams aren't answered, we're disappointed. Maybe we ask with the wrong motives at times, but more often than not, God wants to give us something better.

I just returned from a mission trip to Nepal with my younger daughter, Joy. We delivered a hundred pounds of books to orphans. God renewed my spirit on the trip, giving me a more positive attitude toward life and hope that no matter how wicked the world seems, His kingdom is moving forward. The gates of Hell will not prevail.

God put writing on my heart at a very young age—but without great grace, we can't have great redemption. God surely

had a lot of grace He needed to pour into me. I was a wounded spirit.

The hard things in life God used to make me teachable. Only when I came to the end of myself did I realize God really is everything He claims to be—and much more. I am thankful for those dark, fearful, waters almost thirty years ago. Without them, God couldn't give me the books He wants me to write today.

I am working on the third book in the Seventh Dimension Series – The Castle, where a young Jewish boy is confronted with a scandalous secret hidden from his people for two thousand years.

The process of writing puts me in the seventh dimension – where God reveals Himself to me in ways I don't understand.

**“The mystery of God keeps me from making God too small.”**

If we don't have hope that God can give us our ultimate dreams, then we have made God a stingy God. My hope, satisfaction, and supreme joy are wrapped up in my Lord and Savior. If ever I start to doubt God's grace, I'm the one who has moved, not God.

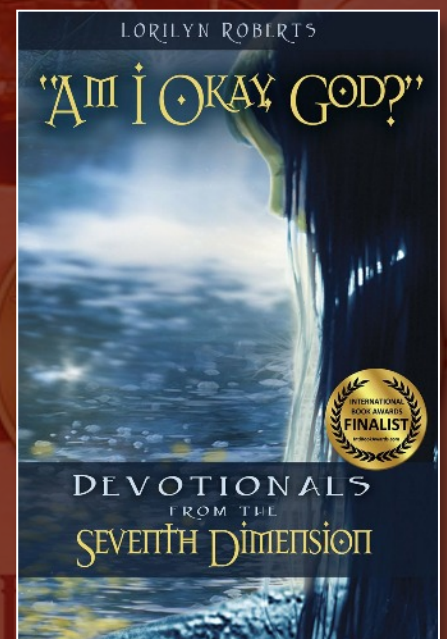
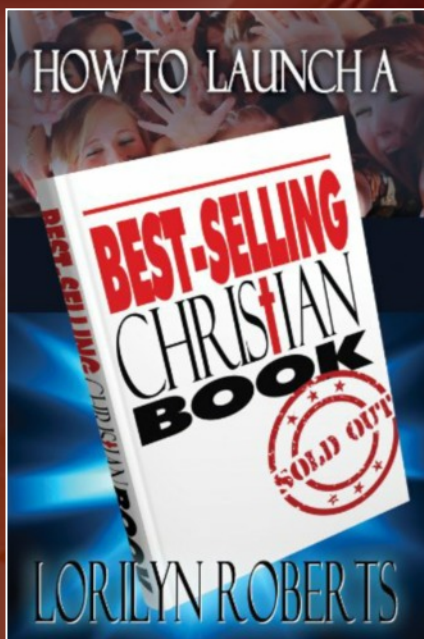
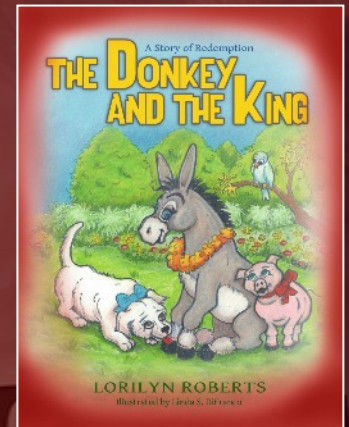
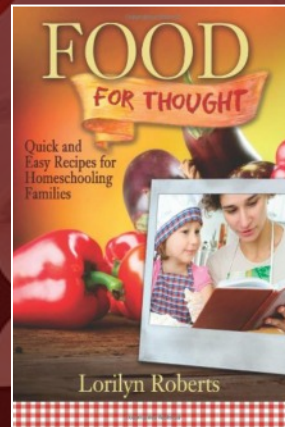
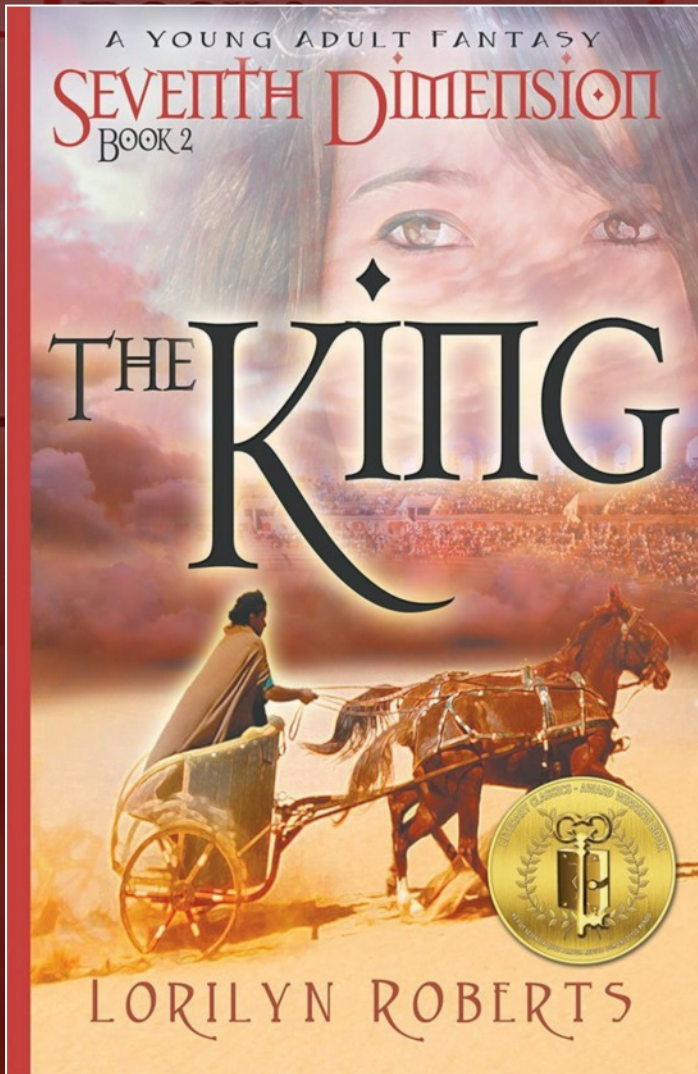
I returned to college at the ripe old age of fifty-six and received my Master of Arts in Creative Writing. In the last three years, I have won almost a dozen awards for my writing.

My prayer now is to be able to write full time and make a living from my books. In the meantime, I'm thankful for all the opportunities we have to get our books into the hands of readers.

- Bio by Lorilyn Roberts

A YOUNG ADULT FANTASY

# BOOKS BY LORILYN ROBERTS

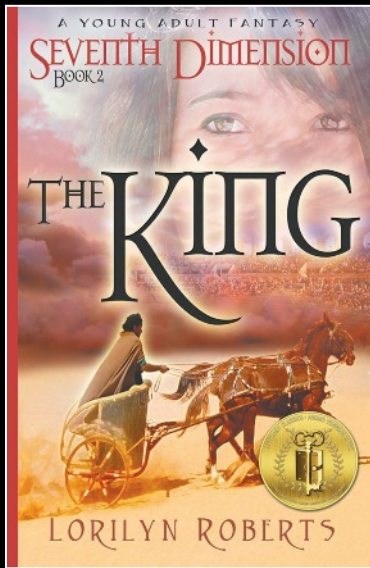


# A YOUNG ADULT FANTASY

# SEVENTH DIMENSION

## BOOK 2

# BOOK REVIEW



**Title:**  
**SEVENTH DIMENSION:  
THE KING**

**Author:**  
**Lorilyn Roberts**

**Rating:**



**Genre:**  
**Young Adult Fiction,  
Fantasy, Adventure**

**Released by:**  
**Roberts Court  
Reporters**

**Reviewed by:**  
**Leah St John**

**Release Date:**  
**Available Now**

**T**he King is a fantasy / adventure / coming of age novel written in first person account. The second in a series of books, it follows *The Door*, which chronicles a struggling, misunderstood young woman's journey to *The Seventh Dimension*.

*The Door* followed the story of 15 year old High School student Shale Snyder from modern day Atlanta, GA. With an accident from her past ever-haunting her, and her mother's recent marriage to a man Shale barely knows, she is feeling more alone than ever. After being suspended from school, she finds a portal in a forest near her apartment, and is transported to a beautiful yet strange place where talking animals reside, which oddly enough resembles her favorite childhood book. From there, she embarks on a journey in early 1<sup>st</sup> century Israel, in which she encounters a handsome young man, her long gone father, and a mysterious man who is called the "king".

*The King* is written as a sort of parallel storyline to *The Door*, but if one hasn't read *The Door*, *The King* could still be read and its story understood. The main character in *The King*, a 17 year old named Daniel, played a somewhat significant part in *The Door*. Though some of his story is explained in that book, the reader gets a deeper glimpse

into his personal journey to and within *The Seventh Dimension* in *The King*.

The story goes something like this; A 17 year old non-practicing Jew from modern times is mysteriously transported to 1<sup>st</sup> century Israel, at a time of great unrest in Jerusalem. There, he soon discovers he can read others thoughts telepathically. During his travels and various occupations, Daniel finds himself meeting historical figures, fighting evil supernatural forces, falling in love, and witnessing miracles. He also crosses paths with Yeshua, a man who many believe is the long awaited Messiah. At first Daniel is skeptical, but he eventually discovers a longing to want to learn more about this man.

*The King* is a Y/A fantasy book, which I would highly recommend to 13-17 year olds. It is well written, and throughout the course of the story there are several surprising twists and turns. *The King* is an engaging and entertaining read and Lorilyn Roberts proves herself again as an imaginative and creative storyteller.

This book, unlike *The Door*, ends on a cliffhanger. The next book in the series, *The Castle* (which I am looking forward to) is set to be released Spring 2015, and is also said to end on a cliffhanger. There will be a total of four books in the series.

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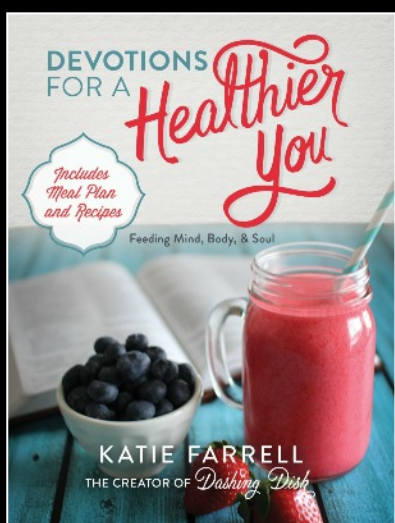
KATIE FARRELL

THE CREATOR OF *Dashing Dish*

# DEVOTIONS FOR A

# Healthier You

## BOOK REVIEW



**Title:**  
**TONGUE PIERCED**

**Author:**  
**Katie Farrell**

**Rating:**



**Genre:**  
**Christian Living,  
Health**

**Released by:**  
**Thomas Nelson**

**Reviewed by:**  
**Leah St John**

**Release Date:**  
**Available Now**

## Feeding Mind, Body, & Soul

**G**reator of the popular lifestyle blog *Dashing Dish* ([dashingdish.com](http://dashingdish.com)), Katie Farrell has created a devotional that focuses on all aspects of health - spiritual, mental, and physical. As such, in addition to including 71 individual devotionals, there are meal plans and recipes too.

The devotionals throughout the book are thoughtful, encouraging, and yet concise, perfect for busy women who have little time on their hands. While each devotional is different in its content, the format remains the same throughout - each day begins with a piece of Scripture, followed by a relevant devotional writing, and conclude with a prayer at the end. Additionally, peppered throughout the book are encouraging and inspirational little notes titled "Dash of Inspiration".

It's also well worth noting that *Devotions For a Healthier You* is a very high quality printing. The layout was well thought

through, as there are gorgeous, vibrant photographs displayed on the books thick glossy pages, and a ribbon is also attached to help you keep your place.

An ideal gift for the special lady in your life, or for personal use, *Devotions For a Healthier You* is a charming book. And with its lovely presentation and thoughtful content, it is pleasing to the eye as well as the mind.

*Reviewers Note: As a vegetarian (and an aspiring vegan), I personally wouldn't make a number of the recipes included in this book - there were a few meals that involved cooking meat (turkey, chicken, bacon, etc). But hey, not every book is going to suited to everyone's dietary choices, right?! And that small part of the book didn't take away from the overall high quality and value of the devotional (I would personally buy it just for the devotionals and attractive layout).*

# THRILL RIDE

## BOOK REVIEW



**Title:**  
**THRILL RIDE**

**Author:**  
**Auny Gill**

**Rating:**



**Genre:**  
**Autobiography, True Story**

**Released by:**  
**Caliber Outreach**

**Reviewed by:**  
**Christian St John**

**Release Date:**  
**Available Now**

**W**hen Auny met Brock, little did she know that her life was about to be turned upside down. Auny was a college student with a plan to become a child psychologist, marry someone in ministry, and settle down. On the other hand, free-spirited Brock believed he had a calling to take his magic show on the road. Two lives, seemingly opposed to one another. But as Brock and Auny were about to find out, with God anything, and everything, is possible.

*Thrill Ride* is an excellent read. Once I started the book I couldn't put it down. Auny Gill writes with passion as she shares the adventures, joys, disappointments, fears, and near death experiences she and her husband Brock have faced together since they took to the road in the hopes of sharing Jesus with as many people as possible.

*Thrill Ride* is an exciting book, detailing what Brock and Auny have done during their time together. And like all great duo's, they are more than just a married couple or business partners - they are best friends who over the years have had to lean on and trust one another, as they learned the bigger lesson of leaning on and trusting in God's guidance

and provision. Theirs is an incredible story of an incredible journey. Sometimes the journey was smooth sailing. But like all great stories of faith, the road before them was often fraught with danger and uncertainty. The book's cover shows a looping roller coaster, which is a great image that more than sums up Brock and Auny's story.

Thinking back to their story, the book could have easily been called something like Brock and Auny's Big Adventure in Prayer and Trust. Because at the end of the day, that is all Brock and Auny had at times... prayer and trust. Throughout the story Auny details how time and again they prayed. When faced with danger, they prayed. When life took an unexpected turn, they prayed. For small issues and large, they prayed. And what was fascinating was seeing how time and again God would come through for them.

Even though it's 200+ page long, *Thrill Ride* is a quick read that, to be honest, reads like a work of fiction. But it's not. I loved this book and hope that one day Auny will again put pen to paper and write a follow up book chronicling the continuing adventures of this dynamic duo!





**“Anyone who believes in Christ is a new creation.  
The old is gone! The new has come!”**

**2 COR. 5:17 (NIRV)**

**2014 was a hard year for many people. Therefore we are praying that 2015 will be an amazing one for all, filled with laughter and peace and joy and blessing.**

**God is always present. This year let us not only call on Him in times of crisis... let us converse with Him about everything. Let us not hold hatred in our hearts... let us learn how to forgive. And let us go forth into this world and share The Good News of The Gospel, not in judgment and condemnation, but in love.**

**May 2015 be a year lived for Him!**

*The Christian Review Team*

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